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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 874)

Name of Candidate	Saumya Sharma		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	95371
Center	Online	Date	3 October 2

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
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18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
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2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   F,)*+G@ #/"6%2 H @2 I"%J@)*+K#"6%
3. All questions are compulsory.
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4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   L%@ "#/N H("2(-" , (",)/"%@"H0"6%
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
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6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   L4/ *+) *+4X" , @9 I 6"Y%&" 6J (" 2/$!Z" %5" I / " . %@E
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   !"#$%(")*+QP@K*+"6@ "#S/5" , ("24"("&S"\ #" , "(T"I / ". %@E

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Answer the following questions in not more than 200 words each:

1. The greatness of the Mughal achievement in the political unification of India was matched by the splendour and beauty of the work of architects, poets, historians, painters and musicians who flourished in the period. Comment.

भारत के राजनीतिक एकीकरण में मुगलकालीन उपलब्धियों की महानता वस्तुतः वास्तुकारों, कवियों, इतिहासकारों, चित्रकारों एवं संगीतकारों के कार्यों की भव्यता एवं सुंदरता से अभिव्यक्त होती है , जो उस काल में फले-फूले। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The defeat of the Lodhi dynasty by Babur at the Battle of Panipat marked a turning point in the history of India. Under successive Mughals, political unification of India occured as:-

- the Mughals came to settle in Indian society unlike the previous conquerers
- the supreme artillery possessed by the Mughals made it easier for them to bring territory under their occupation.

Apart from the political unification, the Mughal empire contributed greatly to the cultural heritage of India.

Architects: A synthesis of arcuate and trabeate style led to the birth of Indo Islamic architecture. Each

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emperor added a new element: Humayun's sister's idea of Humayun's Tomb in Red sandstone and white marble with charbagh style; Akbar's Fatehpur Sikri in red sandstone; Shahjahan's Red Fort and Taj Mahal in pure white makrana marble.

Poets: Amir Khusrau led the club of the famed poets of the Mughal Court. He helped create a new language called Urdu; a mix of Persian and Hindi. Sufi & Bhakti devotional poetry too reached great heights during this era.

Historians: Babur's autobiography Tuzuk-i-Baburi throws light on historical aspects. ~~Amir Khusrau's~~ Abu Fazal's Ain-i-akbari throws light on the life & times. Many books were written with nastalig form of calligraphy. In addition to these, records of Portuguese and English travellers to Court subsist.

Painters: The form of miniature painting received great impetus until the era of Aurangzeb. Jehangir himself

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was a gifted painter. Painters were employed in karkhanas to illustrate books. Scenes of nature; court; portraits of emperors with a divine halo were depicted. Elements from western painting such as perspective were also developed.

Musicians: Hindustani form of music with its various ragas developed. Kathak and kathakars were respected & encouraged in Court. Bhakti and sufi devotional music grew. The works of Tansen, Baiju Bawra, Amir Khusrau were all famous.

Hence, the Mughal court, with the exception of Aurangzeb who was a puritan, acted as a great facilitator for the development of fine arts & culture in India.

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2. Traditionally, India had developed wide-ranging water harvesting techniques in keeping with the local ecological conditions and their water needs. Substantiate with examples.
पारंपरिक रुप से भारत ने स्थानीय प्रारिस्थितिक दशाओं एवं अपनी स्थानिक जल आवश्यकताओं के अनुसार विविध प्रकार की जल संचयन (वाटर हार्वेस्टिंग) तकनीकों का विकास किया था। उदाहरण सहित पुष्ट कीजिए।

The importance of water in giving sustainence to human civilization was well known by our ancestors. Due to the widespread ~~sho~~ differences in climatic & ecological conditions, different modes were chosen to fulfil water needs.

Area north of the Narmada Valley:

- The Indus valley civilisation had a network of canals to divert the water of the rivers. Structures such as the Great Bath at Mohenjo Daro helped conserve and store water

- In the chalcolithic period, wells were dug.
- Cities in both ancient and medeival period were built around rivers which were perennial. Eg: Magadh; Delhi.

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- Johads were constructed in Rajasthan as underground structures where rain water was stored.

- Various Baolis and Vavs were constructed in semi-arid areas. Eg: Rani ki Vav (Gujarat); Agrasen Baoli (Delhi).

- Temples and mosques too at times had water storage structures within the complex.

- Firozshah Tughlaq built a system of modern canals in Delhi, later expanded by the Mughals but filled up by the British.

Area south of Narmada valley:-

- With seasonal rivers, and hard impermeable rock, groundwater resources were limited.

- Large tankas were dug to store water.

- Rivers were dammed. The Grand Anicut dam over Kaveri was constructed by the Cholas.

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- Thin, narrow channels to minimize evaporation were dug to allow water to reach a wider area.

- The monsoon season was utilised effeciently to harvest water for the dry season.

Therefore, the genius of our ancestors in creating localised structures of water harvesting ensured continuous survival and prosperity in earlier times.

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3. Imperial rivalries of 18th Century Europe were played out in India as well. Comment in the context of the Carnatic Wars.

18वीं सदी के यूरोप की साम्राज्यिक प्रतिद्वंद्विताएं भारत में भी देखी गईं। कर्नाटक युद्धों के संदर्भ में टिप्पणी कीजिए।

18th century Europe was marked by technological advance and heightened competition between the European states.

1. Portugal and Spain were the initial winners of the age of discovery. The world sphere of influence was divided in half between them.

2. Soon, the English, French, Dutch and Danish caught up with their imperial ambitions.

3. Due to the industrial revolution in England, its rising success made other nations wary of it.

In India, we had:-

- The portuguese settled on the West Coast
- English in a large swathe of India

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- French in Chandipore, Pondicherry;
- The Dutch in southern India;

and

- The Danes too were laying a claim to the Indian pie.

The East India Company wanted to consolidate its position in India, and make India its full fledged colony.

→ The EIC fought a number of wars with the other powers in the Carnatic region.

→ The Dutch and the Danes were easily routed by both England and France.

→ Portugal's influence was limited to Goa after it was routed.

→ It was between the English & France that the most protracted battles were fought.

→ The two countries were at war

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in Europe as well, and the wars in India were an extension of those wars

→ Battles were fought in Bengal, in Carnatic. Many lives were lost and property damaged.

→ Finally, it was in the Battle of Wandiwash that the British emerged as sole superpower in the Indian sub-continent.

→ Post this, while British control was over the rest of India, the French were restricted to Yanam, Mahe & Pondicherry.

The Carnatic wars helped solidify the image of Britain as an imperial leader in Europe.

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4. The Lucknow session of 1916 was a watershed event during the freedom struggle of India due to various reasons. Elucidate.
भारत के स्वतंत्रता संघर्ष के दौरान 1916 का लखनऊ सत्र विभिन्न कारणों से एक ऐतिहासिक घटना थी। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

The Congress, in 1906, split up in two camps - the moderates and the extremists - over divergence in opinion on the methods to be employed in the Swadeshi movement.

At the same time, the Muslim league was formed due to the success of the British policy of divide and rule. The league saw its interests as being different from the Congress.

It was in this background that the Lucknow Session took place. Outcomes :-

1. Reunion of moderates and extremists

→ As the moderates accepted the mass appeal and need for changed methods used by the extremists, the extremists too realised that having the support of moderates provides an outer line

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of defence to their actions. The Congress once again became invigorated to collectively act ~~for~~ against the British.

2. The Lucknow Pact

- This pact was signed between the Congress and the Muslim league. Its main terms were:-
  - → More self government for India
  - → Reservation of one-third seats in the legislature for Muslims.

The developments were beneficial as:-

→ The renewed synergy provided base for future non-cooperation movement.

→ Large numbers participated in the Home Rule League of Annie Besant and Tilak, launched soon after the session.

Yet, there were certain shortcomings:-

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- By recognising the factional demands of the Muslim league, the Congress gave legitimacy to the league's existence.

- The Congress seemed to portray that it is not keen to promote Muslim interests on its own initiative.

Despite this, the Lucknow Session paved the way for years of charged activity.

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5. **Reforms initiated by the Justice Party became a model for social affirmative action in the country. Comment.**
जस्टिस पार्टी द्वारा आरंभ किए गए सुधार देश में सकारात्मक सामाजिक कार्यवाही हेतु एक आदर्श बन गए थे। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The Justice Party, led by Rama swamy Anjar, was an organisation dedicated towards

- ending the hegemony of Brahmins in social life & governance
- ending discrimination meted out to the lower castes
- seeking better opportunities and a life of dignity.

The reforms initiated by the Party:-

- opening of temples for entry by the lower castes
- increasing visibility of lower castes in respectable positions of public life.
- passing of the Caste Disabilities Removal Act, which undid the effect of all personal law restrictions on

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account of caste.

The emancipation of the lower castes as initiated by the Justice Party became a model for independent India.

→ Our constitution provides for affirmative action under Articles 15 and 16 to further equality.

→ A national commission for scheduled castes is provided for in the Constitution

→ Passing of acts such as Protection of Civil Rights Act; SC/ST Atrocities Act

→ Reservation of seats for scheduled castes in the legislature.

These reforms have ensured increased participation of Dalits in the public arena. The fact that the head of State is a Dalit speaks volumes about

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how far we have come.

Yet, certain hurdles remain:-

1. casteism is still rife, especially in matters of marriage

2. discreet forms of untouchability are still practiced, as shown by a recent survey conducted by SARI [social action research institute].

Way forward:

To truly realise the vision of the Justice Party, a bottoms up approach is needed. Attitude change should be a priority of all policy interventions.

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6. War in the Korean Peninsula proved to be disastrous for Korea, a missed opportunity for the United States and a defining moment for China. Examine.

कोरियाई प्रायद्वीप में हुआ युद्ध कोरिया के लिए विनाशकारी, संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के लिए एक खोया हुआ अवसर तथा चीन के लिए एक निर्णायक क्षण सिद्ध हुआ। परीक्षण कीजिए।

The Korean war (1950-53) can be said to be an indirect reason for the present day belligerency of North Korea.

North Korea adopted a Communist form of government. The USA under its policy of containment became worried as a communist Korean peninsula threatened its investments made in the region.

Soon, North Korea invaded the South. The USA intervened and in the ensuing war the border across the two Koreas was restored.

Disastrous for Korea:

- It took decades for North Korea to recover the losses it sustained during the war.

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- The South Korean peninsula quickly recovered due to the US aid it received.

- The ensuing inequality & isolation pushed North Korea to illegally develop nuclear weapons in 2009.

A missed opportunity for USA :-

- USA tried to reunite the two Koreas to contain the spread of communism. Yet, it failed.

- The UN General Assembly for the first time overruled the UN Security Council to allow US intervention. Yet, the US employed questionable means and failed to reach a long term solution and peace.

A defining moment for China :-

- The newly Communist China's success in pushing back

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USA from its efforts at uniting Korea established the presence of the Chinese as a superpower.

- It gave traction to the view that Communist China is more legitimate than Republic of China in Taiwan.

Therefore, due to its wide reaching effects, the Korean war was a defining moment in history.

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7. The Munich Pact brought neither peace nor stability in relations between European countries, rather it turned out to be an act of appeasement that made war inevitable. Comment.

म्यूनिख समझौते ने यूरोपीय देशों के बीच संबंधों में न तो शांति उत्पन्न की और न ही स्थिरता, अपितु यह तुष्टीकरण की एक ऐसी कार्यवाही सिद्ध हुआ जिसने युद्ध को अपरिहार्य बना दिया। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The Munich Pact was an agreement signed in the late 1930s between France, Britain and Italy with Germany. Its main feature was

→ permitted annexation of a region of Czechoslovakia by Hitler.

→ the reason given was to unite the German population of Czechoslovakia with the larger German state.

→ Czechoslovakia was not a party to the Pact.

The region to be annexed by Hitler was one of the most industrially productive and strategically located regions of Czechoslovakia.

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It was regarded as an Act of appeasement as:-

→ The signatories believed it would appease Hitler and his aggression may lessen.

→ They saw communism in USSR as a bigger threat than Hitler, and a German buffer State worked in their advantage as protection from Communism.

Yet, it made war inevitable as:

→ It only emboldened Hitler who saw this act of appeasement as a mark of his power.

→ Since his annexation of Czechoslovakia was without issue, it made him confident that no one would have an issue when he attacks Poland, which was strategically less important.

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However, the attack on Poland was responded to by Britain, which led to the second world war. It happened due to:

- miscalculation of extant conditions by Hitler
- the late realisation by Allied powers that Hitler posed a threat to regional stability.

The Munich Pact was an important factor for the occurrence of the 2nd World War.

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8. Explain how Gandhi's non-violent philosophy influenced Martin Luther King Jr.'s methods. Also discuss the contributions and accomplishments of King to ensure civil rights for all people regardless of race in America.

व्याख्या कीजिए कि किस प्रकार से गांधीजी के अहिंसावादी दर्शन ने मार्टिन लूथर किंग जूनियर के तरीकों को प्रभावित किया। साथ ही अमेरिका में नस्लीय भेदभाव के बिना सभी लोगों के लिए नागरिक अधिकार सुनिश्चित करने में मार्टिन लूथर किंग के योगदानों एवं उपलब्धियों की भी चर्चा कीजिए।

Martin Luther King Jr. was great American reformer who relentlessly campaigned against discrimination against Blacks in America.

→ He campaigned against the 'separate but equal' segregeration of Blacks and whites prevalent in America.

→ His philosophy and methods were inspired by the non-violent struggle of satyagraha propounded by Mahata Gandhi.

→ He led various protests, marches to give direction and social currency to the troubles of

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African-Americans in America.

→ Like Gandhi, he organised various strikes to show non-cooperation with the regime.

→ Coincidentally, like Gandhi, he too was assassinated by a single gun shot.

Accomplishments of Martin Luther King Jr. :-

- While slavery was banned by law, discriminatory attitudes persisted. King helped bridge the divide between law and social change by awakening the masses.

- His efforts culminated in the US Supreme Court striking down the separate but equal policy, by banning of segregation of black & white

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facilities in States.

- Increased participation of African Americans in US Public life → culminated with Barack Obama being elected as President.

- Apart from African Americans, he sought better realisation of civil rights for all → the disabled, the immigrants, and the poor.

- This was based on Gandhi's philosophy of antyodaya → i.e. betterment of even the least advantaged.

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9. Apart from the linguistic reorganisation of states, the three language formula was an important part of government policy to address the language question in India. Discuss.

राज्यों के भाषाई पुनर्गठन के अतिरिक्त, त्रि-भाषा सूत्र भारत में भाषा की समस्या का समाधान करने की सरकार की नीति का एक महत्वपूर्ण भाग था। चर्चा कीजिए।

India's great expanse encompasses a large number of languages & even more dialects. During the Constituent Assembly debates, the majority decided that

- Hindi is to act as the official language for cultural unification
- English to be used for a 10 year transition period

even as many protested against Hindi.

Soon enough, the demand for States based on language erupted.

- Post Potti Srimulu's death due to fast, a States Reorganisation Committee was appointed.
- States such as Gujarat, Andhra, Kerala were carved on

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linguistic lines.

- This sought to promote federalism in the country by giving more powers on the basis of linguistic identity.

- The next question that arose was the language in which education is to be imparted.
  → In colonial era, English was the language of choice.
  → For independent India, the Kothari Commission was appointed. It recommended the 3 language formula:-
  → Primary education in Regional language
  → Secondary education in English or Hindi
  → Hindi to be compulsorily taught till Class 8.

This policy aimed at consolidating the role of the mother tongue in

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the early years of life, while providing for simultaneous knowledge of Hindi and English.

Issues:

- Yet, Hindi did not get entrenched and the period of usage ~~for~~ of English for official purposes was extended by an Act of Parliament.

- The 8th schedule recognises only 22 languages of the 100+ languages in the country.

- Agitations against the 'imposition' of Hindi still continue in Southern States.

Way ahead:

- The forum of inter state council must be utilised to discuss the language issue afresh.

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10. Enumerate the measures for the welfare of Unorganised Workers in India. In the context of problems being faced by 'domestic helps', discuss the need for additional measures to safeguard their interests.

भारत में असंगठित कामगारों के कल्याण हेतु किए गए उपायों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। 'घरेलू सहायकों' द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं के संदर्भ में, उनके हितों की रक्षा करने हेतु अतिरिक्त उपायों की आवश्यकता की चर्चा कीजिए।

As per the Arjun Singh Committee, the unorganised sector comprises 90% of India's workforce.

Such a vast sector comprising the self-employed, casual labours has variations in the incomes earned. The problems are faced by the poorer section, including:-

- lack of comprehensive social security
- poor job security
- lack of insurance against price shocks
- lack of health insurance
- dangerous working conditions
- poor regulation

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Problems of domestic workers specifically:

→ Feudal tones in the kind of work performed

→ Extreme informalisation as their workplace is someone's home

→ Risk of sexual harrassment

→ Discrimination in the form of being asked to eat from separate utensils; use separate toilets

Certain measures have been taken for the welfare of unorganised workers:-

1. Passage of unorganised workers Social Security Act, 2008

2. Extension of Atal Pension Yojana; Atal Bima Yojana to those in the unorganised sector

3. Skill India; MUDRA loans; Stand up India to allow for social & professional upgradation

Yet, these measures are not enough.

1. There is urgent need to extend the Minimum Wages Act to employed unorganised workers.

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2. The Bill introduced on domestic workers with rights for the worker and duties on the employer must be passed.

3. Efforts must be made to organise unorganised workers in Unions to put pressure on the government to address their demands.

4. A comprehensive social security apparatus should be introduced as the 2008 Act has limited benefits.

5. The Maternity Amendment Act should be introduced to domestic workers so that their family life is not affected.

6. Girls who are trafficked from tribal states to be sold to maid agencies must be rescued.

These steps will act as a stepping stone to improve conditions of the informal workforce.

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11. The manner in which the mentally ill have been treated in India suggests that policy measures alone may not be sufficient to address the challenges faced by them. Discuss.

भारत में मानसिक रुप से रोग ग्रस्त व्यक्तियों के साथ जिस प्रकार का व्यवहार किया जाता रहा है उससे यह सिद्ध होता है कि मात्र नीतिगत उपाय ही उनके द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के लिए पर्याप्त नहीं हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

The mentally ill constitute around 2% of the Indian population. The mental disorders range from depression to extreme schizophrenia. Their treatment is deplorable:-

1. Shunned by society who sees them as a threat

2. Refusal of families to talk about their mentally ill family member to protect their honour.

3. Administered forced treatment including electric shocks

4. Sent to hostile environments of mental health homes where they are subject to risk of sexual harassment.

5. Easy targets of criminals.

6. Inability to find accomodative work.

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Various Policy measures have been taken:

1. A 1988 Act on Mental Retardation and Cerebral Palsy that sets up a National Trust for their welfare

2. Inclusion of cerebral palsy as a disability under the Disability Act, 2016.

3. The Mental Health Act, 2017 which has a rights based approach
   - bans forced treatment
   - allows the mentally ill person to give the action preferred by him or her in case of an attack beforehand

However, real change in society can only occur in a bottoms-up manner.

→ The law in this case is ahead of the society. Society still harbours negative beliefs about mental illness.

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→ The implementation of the Mental Health Act, 2017 depends on the social will.

To truly bring a change, the way ahead is to:-

1. Organise workshops, nukkad nataks to sensitise the masses.

2. Rope in celebrities who have successfully battled mental illness to support the cause.

3. Incentivise organisations to provide meaningful ways of livelihood for the mentally ill

4. The most important would be to ensure that the Mental Health Act, 2017 is conveyed to the mentally ill and they know about it. Awareness is key.

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margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

12. Highlight the characteristics of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) and discuss the challenges faced by them. Also enumerate the measures taken by the government to address these challenges.
विशिष्ट रुप से सुभेद्य जनजातीय समूहों (Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups: PVTGs) की विशेषताओं पर प्रकाश डालिए एवं उनकेद्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों की चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही सरकार द्वारा इन चुनौतियों का समाधान करने हेतु किए गए उपायों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

The Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) are groups who:-

- are isolated in a pervasive manner from the rest of the society.
- have an unwritten language of their own
- have very small numbers

Examples are the Sentinelese in Andaman who number less than 10, to the Todas in the Nilgiri hills.

Challenges faced:

→ lack of amenities as most of them continue their centuries old way of life

→ Susceptibility to being wiped out due to disease by reason of endogamy. (threat of extinction)

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→ Most of them do not and are not in a position to take the benefits of reservation for Scheduled Tribes.

→ Extreme poverty; a hand to mouth existence. with malnutrition

Measures taken by the Government:

- There exists a Scheme for the Development of PVTGs
- Tribal Advisory Councils have been set up.
- Forest Rights Act, 2006 provides them with ownership rights over community lands
- The Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas Act brings democratic processes to the tribes
- Committees such as the Xaxa Committee have been set up to look into issues faced by the tribes

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Way ahead:

→ The National Food Security Act should be extended to the PVTGs as they are at risk of being wiped out.

→ Their minor forest produce should be collected by officials of the TRIFED of Ministry of Tribal Affairs rather than middlemen.

→ Any intervention must be made with due caution as some PVTGs like the Sentinelese prefer complete isolation over assimilation.

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13. While suburbanisation is a common phenomenon in most urbanising countries, it is occurring at a relatively early stage of India's urban development. Enumerating the reasons behind this development, highlight the challenges it is creating for Indian cities.

यद्यपि उपशहरीकरण अधिकांश शहरीकृत हो रहे देशों में एक सामान्य परिघटना है, किन्तु भारत के शहरी विकास के संदर्भ में यह अपेक्षाकृत प्रारंभिक चरण पर में हो रही है। इस विकास के अंतर्निहित कारणों को सूचीबद्ध करते हुए भारतीय शहरों के लिए इसके द्वारा उत्पन्न की जा रही चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Suburbanisation refers to the expansion of the urban area to its outer limit enclaves called suburbs.

Characteristics of suburbs:

→ less congested than cities

→ green leafy environs with better planning.

→ Examples: Gurgaon is a Delhi suburb; Chembur is a suburb of Mumbai.

Reasons for development of suburbs:-

- Cities are growing in a haphazard manner, with many city pockets turning unlivable

- Breach of the carrying capacity of cities to accommodate an ever growing population.

- People move in search of better &

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efficient health & education delivery

- Occuring earlier in India as:-
  - → most cities were unplanned to begin with
  - → the growing Indian population at 1.2 Billion
  - → increased migration to cities
  - → higher costs of living in city than suburbs.

Challenges being created:

- Offices are in cities, while people live in suburbs. Most cities lack efficient public transport leading to overcrowded threewheelers ferrying people, and large traffic jams of private cars.

- Jurisdiction tussles over suburban areas result in low growth ~~for~~ and poor service delivery.

- No effective curbs can be put

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on the expansion of a city, which puts additional strain on financial resources.

- In some cases, suburbs too face the same issues as cities due to uncontrolled growth & over-crowding.

Way ahead:

- Master plans must be created and implemented for cities.
- Green Building Norms of Bureau of Electricity Efficiency should be made mandatory.
- An efficient network of public transport such as hyperloop, metrino to connect suburbs with cities.

The future on India lies in its cities, and utmost importance should therefore be given.

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14. Various geographical and anthropogenic factors have rendered Brahmaputra Valley susceptible to recurrent floods. Discuss the causes and suggest suitable measures of mitigation.

विविध भौगोलिक एवं मानव जनित कारकों ने ब्रह्मपुत्र घाटी को बारम्बार बाढ़ों हेतु अति संवेदनशील बना दिया है। इसके कारणों की चर्चा कीजिए तथा शमन के उचित उपाय सुझाइए।

The Brahmaputra valley is one of the most flood prone regions in the world. Geographical factors :-

→ high sediment load decreases its water carrying capacity

→ its braided channel topography makes flooding common

→ its flood plain is raised above the area of surrounding plains due to excessive sediment deposit.

→ the snow melt from Tibet and the high amount of precipitation in the North East ensure its water volume remains large.

Anthropogenic factors :-

→ Encroachments along the flood plain have further reduced its ability to follow its natural drainage

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basin

→ Release of water from dams higher up in Arunachal brings floods to Assam

→ Deforestation reduces the scope for water retention by strong trees

→ Climate change leading to violent precipitation

The present methods of mitigation used consist of :-

- Embankments, which are often breached

There is a need to move away from this approach. Suitable mitigation measures would be :-

1. Integrated river basin management with afforestation, watershed development

2. Allowing the river enough space to chart its course freely.

3. Seeing rivers as living ecosystems

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and not as a flow of water that can be tamed.

4. Better coordination between dam authorities of upstream & downstream riparian states

5. Better forecasting of floods, having a resilient disaster risk reduction plan in place

6. Development should follow the natural drainage pattern of land.

Such an approach will go a long way in preventing floods from causing widespread damage.

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15. Give a brief account of Earth's heat budget. Also discuss how increasing concentration of carbon dioxide in Earth's atmosphere effects it.

पृथ्वी के ऊष्मा बजट का एक संक्षिप्त विवरण दीजिए। साथ ही चर्चा कीजिए कि पृथ्वी के वायुमंडल में कार्बन डाइऑक्साइड की निरंतर बढ़ रही सांद्रता इसे किस प्रकार प्रभावित करती है।

The earth's heat budget refers to the incoming heat being equivalent to the outgoing heat

Out of the total incoming radiation, which is in the form of shortwave (UV) radiation :-

- Around ~~20~~ 4% is reflected back by the albedo of land & water
- Around 20% is reflected by clouds
- Around 6% is scattered back by air molecules
- Another 19% is absorbed by the atmosphere.
- 51% of the total energy

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reaches the Earth's surface
This 51% is reflected back by the surface as long wave infrareds.
Some of the heat is lost through convection and conduction as well

Relevance of the Heat Budget:

→ It ensures that the Earth maintains optimum climate to sustain life.

→ The incoming and outgoing radiation powers the water cycle, production of food; generation of winds and ocean currents.

The carbon dioxide present in the Earth's atmosphere traps some of the heat to maintain a stable environment.

↳ It operates as a natural greenhouse, by allowing heat to enter but not escape.

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→ Excess presence of carbon dioxide intensifies the natural greenhouse effect, causing the Earth's atmosphere to blanket more heat than it would at natural carbon dioxide levels.

→ This causes heating of the Earth, a phenomenon known as global warming or climate change

→ The increased carbon dioxide is anthropogenically induced.

Way ahead:

- Honouring the commitments of Paris Agreement; using more sustainable sources of energy should be a priority to ensure continued survival of life on Earth.

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16. Give an outline of the major geological events that have shaped the present drainage system of Peninsular India. Also, explain why peninsular rivers are unsuitable for navigation but facilitate hydroelectric power generation.

प्रायद्वीपीय भारत के वर्तमान अपवाह तंत्र को आकार प्रदान करने वाली प्रमुख भू-गर्भीय घटनाओं की एक रूपरेखा प्रस्तुत कीजिये । साथ ही स्पष्ट कीजिए कि ऐसा क्यों हैं कि प्रायद्वीपीय नदियां नौवहन के लिए अनुपयुक्त हैं लेकिन जलविद्युत उत्पादन को सुविधाजनक बनाती हैं।

The peninsula of India was initially a part of Gondwanaland. It detached from there to crash into Laurasia, leading to formation of India as we know it today.

Major geological events shaping peninsular drainage :-

1. Development of the Narmada Trough valley which runs deep leading to west draining Narmada and Tapi rivers

2. Orientation of the peninsular block sloping towards the east slightly, leading to majority of peninsular rivers draining to east coast.

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3. The east coast due to its slope is conducive to formation of deltas. Eg: Mahanadi; Godavari. These deltas are rich in minerals.

4. The west coast rises against the sea, leading to poor delta formation.

5. Development of Aravallis as a drainage divide.

6. The formation of western Ghats, which are steeper than Eastern Ghats and receive more rainfall lead to development of a number of localised hill originating rivers in the western Coast. Eg: Bharatpuzha in Kerala; Ullas in Maharashtra.

Reasons for poor navigation:-

- The peninsular rivers are not fed by snowmelt like the

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Himalayan rivers. Instead, they depend on rainfall which is seasonal
- Their water flow remains low.
- Further, the drainage is Concordant to the topography and valleys are not deep and lack enough vertical erosion.

Due to low flow & not very deep channels they are poor for navigation.

Hydroelectric potential :-

→ The peninsular rivers are fast flowing due to less traction load acting as friction.

→ As they flow through hardened rocky plateau, their flow is unhindered by excess sediment.

→ They also fall at heights on the plateau and surrounding hills.

This increases their hydroelectric potential.

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margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. **Elaborate with examples as to how government policies influence the location of industries. Also, mention the steps taken by the Government of India to stimulate industrial activity in backward regions.**

उदाहरण सहित व्याख्या कीजिए कि किस प्रकार से सरकारी नीतियां औद्योगिक अवस्थिति को प्रभावित करती हैं। साथ ही, भारत सरकार द्वारा पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में औद्योगिक गतिविधियों को बढ़ावा देने हेतु उठाए गए कदमों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Government policies are an important factor determining the location of industries, especially for industries which are:

→ footloose (can be set up any where)

→ weight gaining (finished product is more bulky than raw material)

For weight losing industries, government policies at source help develop the naturally endowed regions.

Examples:

1. The development of Gujarat as a diamond polishing and cutting hub despite having no diamond mines is due to the ease of doing business.

2- The large number of car

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manufacturing units in Tamil Nadu is due to its developed coastal shipping and presence of special Economic zones.

3. Development of Jamshedpur after discovery of coal and iron in the region brought development with government support.

4. Development of pharmaceutical industry in Solan & Baddi districts of Himachal and not in other hilly regions is a result of the policies.

Steps taken by the government to stimulate backward region development:

1. Grant of special development assistance packages.
2. Promoting Skill India for

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utilising the demographic dividend

3. Focus on cottage, small & medium industries

4. Providing easy credit through MUDRA; Rural Regional Banks

5. State governments providing attractive packages for investors.

Way ahead:

- Best practice models from succesful regions must be replicated.

- Public private partnerships will go a long way in development of backward regions.

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18. **Explain, in brief, the process of cloud formation. Also, elucidate how clouds can help in weather forecasting.**

संक्षेप में बादल बनने की प्रक्रिया की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही स्पष्ट कीजिए कि मौसम के पूर्वानुमान में बादल किस प्रकार सहायता कर सकते हैं।

Cloud formation occurs due to the water cycle.

↳ Water is evaporated from the surface of earth as water vapour.

→ The moisture gets cooler as it rises up in the atmosphere.

→ Higher up, the vapour cools to form crystals of ice. This condensation releases latent heat of condensation which drives various weather processes.

→ The ice crystals accumulate to form clouds. The type of clouds formed depend on amount of water vapour & the height of clouds. Eg: Cirrus, Altrostratus; Nimbus.

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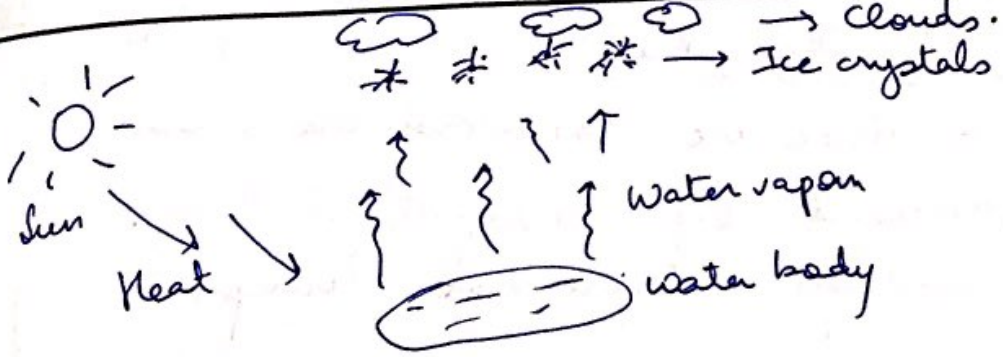

Clouds can help a lot in weather forecasting. Depending on the type of clouds in the atmosphere, the weather can be predicted:-

1. Cirrus clouds
- Formed at great heights; they are wisp like. They indicate clear and fair weather

2. Stratus and altostratus
- Indicate cloudy conditions. These clouds are horizontally expanded

3. Cumulus
- These are clouds with height. They indicate possibility of rain.

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4. Cumulonimbus — Anvil cloud
- These are thunderstorm clouds, caused by convection. They bring sudden torrential downpours.

5. Nimbostratus
- These are dark grey clouds associated with rain, thunder.

Therefore, clouds can help in weather prediction using the naked eye.

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19. **The socio-economic and ecological consequences of soil degradation are far-reaching. Discuss. Suggest measures that can be taken to restore soil fertility and arrest soil degradation.**

मृदा निम्नीकरण के सामाजिक-आर्थिक एवं पारिस्थितिक परिणाम दूरगामी प्रभाव डालने वाले होते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। मृदा उर्वरता को पुनर्स्थापित करने एवं मृदा निम्नीकरण को रोकने हेतु किए जा सकने वाले उपाय सुझाइए।

Soil degradation refers to a long drawn process by which the soil loses its nutrients and original properties. Causes of soil degradation are :-

1. Natural causes as once fertile lands undergo ecological succession
2. Overuse of pesticides, fertilisers
3. Leaching of soil nutrients by action of water, rain, rivers

Socio-economic consequences are many:-

1. Affects the productivity of land as land loses its fertility.
2. Induces migration as people seek to settle in fertile regions.
3. The accompanied soil erosion causes dust storms leading to decreased visibility, health disorders

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4. Puts stress on a country's exchequer as foodgrain has to be exported.

Ecological consequences:

1. Wildlife distribution is affected as mesophytes give way to xerophytes

2. Due to soil run off the carrying capacity of rivers is reduced, increasing chances of floods.

3. The weather pattern changes as soil's capacity to retain moisture decreases.

4. Wetlands and woodlands give way to deserts.

Measures to arrest soil degradation:-

1. ~~Arrest~~ Afforestation along river banks to prevent badlands like the ones in Chambal valley from developing

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2. Keeping the soil irrigated ~~at all times~~ to prevent erosion

3. Using neutralising chemical agents to counter excess acids / bases in soil.

Restoration of soil fertility:-

1. By planting crops suited to the agro climatic region.

2. By using natural fertilisers instead of heavy duty industrial ones.

3. Watershed development for all round conservation.

Way forward:

The provisions of the UN Convention Against Desertification must be heeded in letter & spirit.

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20. Development of island territories requires a careful balancing of environmental and tribal concerns with exploitation of economic potential. Elaborating on the threats faced by island territories of India, comment on the recent measures proposed by the government regarding their development.

द्वीपीय क्षेत्रों के विकास हेतु संभावित आर्थिक क्षमताओं के दोहन के साथ ही पर्यावरणीय एवं जनजातीय चिंताओं के मध्य विवेकपूर्ण संतुलन की आवश्यकता है। भारत के द्वीपीय क्षेत्रों द्वारा सामना किए जाने वाले खतरों को विस्तार से बताते हुए, उनके विकास के संबंध में सरकार द्वारा हाल ही में प्रस्तावित उपायों पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Island territories are usually cut-off from the main land. India's islands of lakshwadweep have a 98% Scheduled Tribe population. Andaman and Nicobar too has high density of tribals and particularly vulnerable tribals.

The importance of islands:-

1. Geostrategic:- islands provide an outer line of defence from marine attacks.

2. Economic: rich fishing zones; heavy agro resources such as rubber, plantain. Sites for tourism, adventure sports, snorkelling etc.

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3. Cultural - Islands house many tribals with their own distinct cultural heritage.

The development of island territories is important. However, certain threats exist:

1. Climate change - with rising sea levels, our islands will be the first to get submerged.
2. Coral bleaching - set to affect tourism.
3. Risk of tsunamis, cyclones
4. Reluctance of certain tribes to cooperate with the State. Eg: Sentinelese are famed for shooting down helicopters with bows & arrows.

The government has taken steps for regional development:-

1. Development of islands in line with the Sagarmala project
2. Developing naval bases in

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Andaman & Lakshwadweep.

3. Promoting Tourism
4. Service Delivery for tribals
5. Better transport linkage with the main land.

However any such steps pose a threat to the pristine character of the islands and may be too much of State interference with the Tribal way of life.

Way forward:

- Any development must not impigne on the rights of indigenous people.
- The UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous People, The provisions of our constitution must be kept in sight while developing the islands.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 875)

Name of Candidate	Saumya Sharma		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	95371
Center	Online	Date	5 Oct '17

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
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Total Marks Obtained:

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INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. Centralising recruitment through an All-India Judicial Service (AIJS) will not address the multiple problems in the judiciary and cause new ones instead. Critically evaluate.

अखिल भारतीय न्यायिक सेवा (AIJS) के माध्यम से केंद्रीयकृत भर्ती न्यायपालिका में विद्यमान विभिन्न समस्याओं का समाधान नहीं करेगा अपितु उसके स्थान पर नई समस्याएं उत्पन्न करेगा। आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Article 312 of the Constitution which provides for All India Services allows for the creation of an All India Judicial Services (AIJS)

There are multiple reasons supporting the AIJS :-

1. An all India service will attract fresh law graduates who presently do not consider the lower judiciary as an attractive career option.

2. A centralised system of recruitment by an impartial body will reduce the charges of corruption presently prevalent in the examination process.

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3. It will bring greater cohesion in the judiciary.

4. Better chances of good postings and added social prestige for those selected in the AIJS.

However, some have said that such a proposal does not address the root problems of the judiciary, viz.

1. poor quality of justice administered at lower levels

2. corruption within the subordinate judiciary

3. nepotism & favouritism in postings and promotions.

Further, there are problems with the idea of AIJS itself:-

1. local laws & customs vary greatly across the country. The judges may face difficulty in familiarising themselves with all such laws.

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2. It affects the power of the High Court to regulate & supervise the subordinate judiciary.

3. There is no evidence that the filling up of vacancies will improve efficiency, as civil services too have vacancies, yet they are efficient.

Way ahead:

- Information technology must be used to cut the case backlog presently in the judiciary.

- Better training of extant judges is needed

Any decision on the AIJS must be made with full consultation and coordination with the States.

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2. The roots of the most pertinent challenges faced by Indian politics today can be traced to the lack of intra-party democracy in candidate selection and internal elections. Discuss.

वर्तमान समय में भारतीय राजनीति द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली सबसे महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियों के चिन्हों को उम्मीदवार के चयन और आंतरिक चुनावों में दलों के भीतर लोकतंत्र की कमी में देखा जा सकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Political parties' healthy functioning is conducive to democracy. Yet, Indian politics today faces many challenges which are linked with political party shortcomings:-

1. Nepotism in candidate selection
2. leadership based on hereditary lines rather than on ability
3. Misusing the 33% reservation for women by giving tickets to wives of influential leaders, who then indirectly control the women
4. Corruption in receipt of funds and poor disclosure of norms
5. Secterarian politics on communal & caste lines
6. Lack of interest of masses in

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politics due to perception that it works for a select few.

Some of these can be attributed to the lack of intra party democracy as :-

1. Members assume and internalise who the next in-charge is going to be without formal elections for the same due to a monarchy like situation within the party.

2. Members fear to speak out as they do not wish to risk their chances of getting a ticket due to not being in someone's good books

3. Seats, powers and privileges are allocated on the basis of clout within the party rather than social popularity outside the party

4. The landed elite classes do not wish to forego their

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hold over prime positions, Hence stagnation is rife.

This lack of internal party democracy however is not the only reason for the crisis in politics. other reasons being:

1. fake news and paid news
2. criminalisation of politics
3. lack of effective powers of the Election Commission
4. lack of any law regulating the functioning of parties.
5. ~~Anonymous~~ Cieling less funding which breeds crony capitalism.

To conclude, there is a need for comprehensive reform in the Indian political system. The recommendations of the 255th Law Commission should be followed in this regard.

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3. While the idea behind merger of autonomous bodies in India is to curb overlapping work and reduce expenditure, it may end up doing more harm than good. Discuss.

यद्यपि भारत में स्वायत्त निकायों के विलय के पीछे निहित कारण उनके कार्यों में व्याप्त अतिव्यापन को रोकना और व्यय को कम करना है, लेकिन यह स्थिति को सुधारने के स्थान पर अधिक नुकसान कर सकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Autonomous bodies affiliated to various ministries have a large presence in India. They range from cultural academies like the Sahitya Kala Academy to research bodies like Indian Council of Historical Research.

~~Arg~~ Arguments in favour of their merger:-

1. A recent committee report by Ratan Watal indicated that around 600-odd bodies are a huge burden on financial resources.

2. Most of the bodies have a similar mandate and can be rationalised.

3. Some other bodies find no relevance in the present world such as the UGC which is likely

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to be scrapped.

4. Lesser bodies will result in better fund allocation & more efficiency in research.

Arguments against:

- The bodies play a niche role by occupying a specific field. Any merger will affect specialised research.

- Some personnel may have to face unemployment

-

Upon balancing the arguments, a merger seems more favourable.

↳ It will lead to efficient utilisation of resources.

→ Niche research can still be carried out by carving

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various departments under one body.

→ Concentration of brainpower will result in better synergy.

Therefore, such a proposal could be adopted after thorough cost-benefit analysis & consultations with various stakeholders.

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4. Well-defined electoral laws and greater powers for the Election Commission of India are required as the existing laws and mechanisms are inadequate to deal with new challenges. Analyse.

सुपरिभाषित चुनावी कानूनों एवं भारत निर्वाचन आयोग के लिए अधिकाधिक शक्तियों की आवश्यकता हैं, क्योंकि मौजूदा कानून और तंत्र नई चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए अपर्याप्त हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Presently, the provisions of the Constitution and the Representation of Peoples' Act 1951 determine electoral offences and disqualifying factors. But, as the 255th Report of the Law Commission noted, the present laws are inadequate to deal with new challenges such as:

- fake news
- political party funding
- non-adherence to the Model Code of Conduct
- excessive time taken by High Courts to determine disqualification petitions

To rectify the issue, greater powers are being sought for the Election Commission. :-

1. The Commission lacks the power to punish for its contempt. Many question the election process

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without evidence, thereby tarnishing the Commission's image.

2. The Commission lacks any power akin to a civil court to investigate.

3. The Model Code of Conduct remains ~~unf~~ unenforceable & highly flouted.

4. The Commission's role in disqualifying candidates under the Representation of Peoples' Act is not expansive enough.

However, there are counter arguments to such a proposal too :-

1. The Constitution does not specify any qualification or criteria for the selection of the election commissioner. Any extra powers with the commission may lead to hounding of opposition parties.

2. Giving power of contempt will

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chill free speech and restrict any democratic discussion on the Commission's working.

3. Increased powers for the ECI in the quasi-judicial sphere may interfere with the High Court's power to hear election petition, leading to multiplicity of authorities

To conclude, there is certainly a need to make the election laws more comprehensive in line with reports of various committees. At the same time, any increase in the powers of the Commission must be accompanied by amending the Constitution to provide for qualification of the ECI officials to ensure its neutrality.

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5. Privileges should be defined and delimited for the free and independent functioning of the legislatures. In this context, discuss whether there is a need to re-examine the balance between fundamental rights and parliamentary privileges in India.

विधानमंडलों के मुक्त और स्वतंत्र कामकाज के लिए विशेषाधिकार परिभाषित और सीमांकित होने चाहिए। इस संदर्भ में, चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या भारत में मूल अधिकारों और संसदीय विशेषाधिकारों के मध्य संतुलन के पुन: परीक्षण की आवश्यकता है?

Articles 105 and 195 of the Constitution provide for parliamentary privileges. These privileges are considered essential for the proper functioning of the legislature.

Full freedom of speech in the legislature & immunity from report publications of the house are laid down by the Constitution. The other privileges and immunities are not in the Constitution but instead are part of practice. This leads to :-

1. widespread powers of the legislature to punish those who seem to question its conduct.

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2. Since courts cannot inquire into working of Parliament, any abuse of privilege cannot be reviewed by the Court.

Due to such wide ranging & unlimited privilege powers, incidents like the one in Karnataka where two men were imprisoned for breaching privileges of the legislature are likely to happen.

This raises the need to have a re-look at privileges.

↳ Privileges should be delineated & demarcated to ensure no unconstrained power lies with the legislature.

→ Unlike England where the ~~Constitution~~ Parliament is supreme, in India the Constitution is supreme. Freedoms of ordinary citizens need

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to be upheld.

→ The role and powers of the privileges committee must be made more transparent.

At the same time, any such effort must not curtail the power of legislature to work fearlessly and efficiently.

Way forward:

- Privileges may be suitably laid down to ensure the fine balancing of privileges and freedoms of citizens.
- Doing so will enhance democracy and allow Parliament to function as per ideals of the Constitution enshrined in the Preamble.

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6. The principle of accountability is an essential part of the rule of law. In this context, discuss the lacunae in government's approach and judiciary's response to the phenomenon of extrajudicial killings in India.

उत्तरदायित्व का सिद्धांत विधि के शासन का एक अनिवार्य अंग है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में न्यायेतर हत्या की घटनाओं के प्रति सरकार के दृष्टिकोण एवं न्यायपालिका की प्रतिक्रिया में विद्यमान कमियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Extrajudicial killings refer to deaths in shoot outs, encounters which happen without a fair criminal trial. Laws such as the AFSPA have made extra judicial killings common in India.

The rule of law requires that there is no abuse of discretion. In absence of accountability, there is no answerability for the deaths in custody, in shootouts. This threatens the rule of law as our Constitution guarantees the right to life & liberty.

The Government's approach:-

1. Extrajudicial killings are sometimes necessary to uphold public order.

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2. Most of those killed are suspected terrorists.

3. Deaths in jail mostly occur due to natural causes.

4. laws such as AFSPA allow such immediate shootings without trial.

5. A public servant is at times necessiated to act in self defence.

The Court's Approach:

1. Recently, the Supreme Court took a news report as a PIL wherein National Crime Records Bureau data showed that around 500 people had died in police custody in 4 years.

2. The Supreme Court last year ordered investigation into deaths of youth killed under AFSPA in Manipur.

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3. The Court has repeatedly called for revocation of AFSPA.

4. In certain other cases, Courts have upheld extrajudicial killings as being necessary in public interest.

Way ahead :-

- To boost faith of masses in the State machinery, proper training of policemen & army jawans is necessary.
- The provisions of AFSPA and other laws should be resorted to in rare circumstances.
- Wherever there is no immediate threat, the accused must be tried by the Courts without any custodial violence

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7. Explain the rationale behind enacting the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016. Discuss how it can help in revitalizing consumer confidence in the real estate market. Also highlight the hurdles that remain in implementing it.

स्थावर संपदा (विनियमन एवं विकास) कानून, 2016 {रियल एस्टेट (रेगुलेशन एंड डेवलपमेंट) एक्ट, 2016} को अधिनियमित करने के पीछे निहित तर्क की व्याख्या कीजिए। चर्चा कीजिए कि यह स्थावर संपदा बाजार में उपभोक्ताओं के विश्वास को पुनः सशक्त करने में किस प्रकार सहायता कर सकता है। साथ ही इसके क्रियान्वयन में विद्यमान बाधाओं पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

The growth boom of the early 2000s spurred real estate construction activity. Developers took massive loans, yet projects got stuck due to
- regulatory hurdles
- poor finance planning

This lead to non-delivery of houses, siphoning off of consumer's money.

As the existing consumer protection Act framework was found to be unsuitable for the special problem, the Real Estate (Regulation & Development) Act, 2016 [RERA] was enacted.

The Act aims to boost consumer confidence with its beneficial

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provisions. These include:-

1. Setting up of a Real Estate Regulation Authority. All project developers have to mandatorily register themselves with the authority.

2. All promoters have to open an escrow account in which 70% of the funds paid by the buyers have to be deposited.

3. The promoters can announce bookings only if 50% (atleast) of the project has been constructed

4. Setting up of an association of all buyers of a particular project to increase bargaining power.

5. Precise disclosures in advertisements. Any false information to be strictly dealt with.

6. Setting up of a tribunal to deal

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with complaints.

Issues in implementation: –

1. Very few states have made the Act operational by issuing rules.
2. Many states have diluted the Act in the Rules due to powerful builder lobby.
3. The authorities mandated have not been set up.
4. Small builders may be pushed out of the scene due to high costs of compliance.

Way ahead:

The states must act proactively to do justice to the progressive enactment at the earliest.

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8. Moving the subject of water from state list to concurrent list will solve the issues related to governance of water resources. Comment.
जल को राज्य सूची के विषय से समवर्ती सूची में स्थानांतरित करने से जल संसाधन के प्रशासन से संबंधित मुद्दों का समाधान हो जाएगा। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Presently, inter-State water disputes are under the Union List, while water itself is under state list.

There is a growing demand to shift water in the concurrent list.

1. Water is an essential resource. The present fragmentation over water policies leads to high wastage.

2. By placing it in the concurrent list, the Union will be able to enact a pan-India law & policy on effective river basin & watershed management.

3. Holistic planning and concurrence of objectives will lead to lesser water disputes between riparian states.

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4. Various committees including the Mihir Shah Committee (2016) have pressed on the need to have a National Water Authority.

Yet, the States are not too keen on this proposal :-

1. Sharing of power over water governance with the Union will curtail their ability to maximise the welfare of State residents.

2. The distribution of water resources under a combined framework may take political hues.

3. It violates the separation of center and State functions.

4. ~~Since states~~ It will affect the healthy relations between States due to increased competition to get their views heard.

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Way forward:

- Sustainable development goals require judicious use of water resources and clean water for all (Goal 6)
- Many in our country still have to walk for miles to the nearest well to get water while the rich swim in their personal pools.
- Cooperative federalism is essential to promote judicious use and efficient utilisation of our vast resources.
- The Inter State council must be used as a forum to discuss the proposal with urgency.

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9. Give an account of the areas of potential conflict in the relationship between the political executive and civil servants. Also discuss why a healthy working relationship between the two is critical for good governance.

राजनीतिक कार्यकारिणी और सिविल सेवकों के मध्य संबंधों में संभावित संघर्ष के क्षेत्रों का विवरण दीजिए। साथ ही चर्चा कीजिए कि सुशासन के लिए दोनों के बीच स्वस्थ कार्यशील संबंध क्यों महत्वपूर्ण हैं।

Civil servants are the backbone for the effective functioning of the political executive. The working relationship is supposed to be one of cooperation. However, many potential conflict areas exist:-

1. Transfers: often, with the change in political executive the incumbent officers are transferred & officers seen as more 'friendly' to the regime are preferred.

2. Populism versus Constitutionalism: Often, the political executive's directions may be difficult to implement by the civil servant. Since the civil servant has to

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respect the Constitution, populist measures may not be enforced.

3. Special demands & favours: The political class may demand special treatment for their relatives, where as a civil servant has to act as per neutrality.

4. Administrative Discretion: Often, use of discretion within limits by civil servants ends up with their public rebuke by the politicians. This recently happened in Agra where a young SP ordered lathi charge on certain protestors who were obstructing traffic.

Such conflicts tend to slow down good governance. This highlights the need for a healthy working relationship:-

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- The political class must respect that the civil servants have to act as per Constitution.
- Certain leverage must be given to both the political class and the bureaucracy in their respective fields.
- Transfers should be decided by an independent civil services board as recommended by the 2nd ARC.

A healthy and complementary relationship between the elected class and the administration is necessary for good governance. It is vital to realise the goal of 'Sabka Sath, sabka vikas' i.e. development of all.

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10. Despite their location in the non-political domain of civil society, NGOs have ended up playing a key, if indirect, role in India's politics. Comment.
सिविल सोसाइटी के गैर-राजनीतिक क्षेत्र में स्थिति होने के बावजूद भी गैर-सरकारी संगठन (NGOs) भारत की राजनीति में भले ही अप्रत्यक्ष, लेकिन महत्वपूर्ण, भूमिका निभा रहे हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

NGOs have established themselves as an important part of modern Indian democracy, despite not taking part in the direct political process.

The positive role of NGOs:-

1. NGOs such as Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan are indirectly responsible for the strong Right to Information Act.

2. NGOs give voice to the claims of tribals, poor farmers and other bodies of people who have no bargaining power to get their views heard.

3. NGOs are now increasingly being made part of Track 1.5 diplomacy to increase India's soft power

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4. By taking up wide ranging cause ranging from environment to rights of homeless persons in Court, NGOs have helped develop a rich rights-based jurisprudence by utilising the Public Interest Litigation.

5. NGOs help spread awareness of government initiatives and help the government in service delivery. Example: The role of Pratham in the education sector

At the same time, their role has a few grey shades:-

1. Since they can receive foreign funding, at times it is claimed that some NGOs thwart development in India by furthering foreign interests.

2. Many NGOs recently had their licenses cancelled as they could not

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account for the use of public funds.

3. Some NGOs act as vehicles of tax evasion, since NGOs are not taxed.

4. NGOs can also promote sectarian and parochial politics.

To conclude, while the role of NGOs is vital in a democracy, they need to be regulated too.

↳ They should work in accordance with the National Policy on Voluntary Sector, 2007.

→ ~~They~~ All NGOs should be brought under the ambit of RTI for better monitoring & social audit.

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11. Magnitude of India's urbanisation is not unusual but the pattern is. In this context, examine the issues in the governance of cities in India. Also suggest the reforms required to make Indian cities dynamos of competitive sub-federalism.

भारत के शहरीकरण का विस्तार असामान्य नहीं है लेकिन पैटर्न असामान्य है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में शहरों के प्रशासन से संबंधित मुद्दों का परीक्षण कीजिए। साथ ही भारतीय शहरों को प्रतिस्पर्धी उप-संघवाद के डायनेमो बनाने के लिए आवश्यक सुधारों हेतु सुझाव दीजिए।

India's landscape entails a wide disparity between villages and cities. Due to lack of opportunities in villages, millions migrate to cities as the Economic Survey 2016-17 calculated.

While the magnitude of urbanisation is in consonance with the 1.2 Billion strong population, the pattern is skewed:-

1. The limits of cities are ever growing due to sub-urbanisation.
2. Efficient service delivery is available only in the core pockets of cities.
3. The unplanned expansion provides unsustainable growth in the form of poor waste management, slum development, poor transport linkages.

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4. Only certain states are progressively urbanising. The Bi Ma Ru states still have majority rural population.

This brings us to issues in governance of cities :-

1. Multiple authorities → State government and local body tussle is common over jurisdiction

2. Funding crunch → States are unable to transfer enough funds due to their fiscal management obligations. The powers of municipalities to tax is low

3. Lack of personnel → The existing workforce is lesser to cater to an ever increasing population.

4. Central government and State Legislative Assembly conflict in Union Territories of Delhi & Pondicherry.

The need of the hour is to make

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cities self sufficient.

- As the Economic Survey recommends sub-federalism among cities with competitive sub federalism is required.
- Cities should use their credit ratings as awarded by NITI Aayog to raise municipal bonds. Pune has taken the lead in this.
- More powers to tax should be given to urban local bodies by States.
- Rationalisation of multiple authorities should be done.

Way forward:

→ The Smart Cities Mission and Atal Yojana should be given a push and implemented effectively to ensure our cities are able to satisfy the aspirations of all.

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12. Social boycott should be treated as a criminal offence, rather than being considered as just another form of social evil plaguing the Indian society. Examine.

सामाजिक बहिष्कार को वस्तुतः भारतीय समाज को अभिशप्त करने वाली सामाजिक बुराई का केवल एक अन्य रूप मानने के बजाय, एक आपराधिक कृत्य माना जाना चाहिए। परीक्षण कीजिए।

Recently, the Maharashtra government took a progressive step by enacting an Act prohibiting social boycott. By doing so, it became the first State to do so.

Social boycott is not just another evil plaguing the society. It has a different nature :-

1. Boycott occurs when an individual acts in a manner that is inconsistent with his or her membership to a social group, even if the act is otherwise legal.

2. A person cannot choose the social group he or she is born into, but can certainly choose to exercise freedoms as guaranteed

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by the Constitution.

3. Boycott ostracises the individual and the person loses rights over ancestral property without any formal determination, by the Court.

4. Social boycott strikes the heart of social progress. Abolition of sati would not have been possible if the reformers were actively cut-off and isolated by all.

Therefore, it should be treated as a separate offence. However,

→ while the constitution guarantees group rights, these rights cannot be used so as to punish an individual.

→ groups must be accomodative of the heterogenous views of their members.

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To conclude, social boycott is a special degree of social evil as it cuts off a person from his or her society merely for thinking or speaking differently. other states must follow the example of Maharashtra.

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13. Human Trafficking in India has emerged as a serious issue, which calls for understanding the complexity of the problem and devising an effective strategy to combat it. Discuss.

भारत में मानव दुर्व्यापार एक गंभीर समस्या के रूप में उभरा है, जो समस्या की जटिलता समझने एवं इससे मुकाबला करने के लिए एक प्रभावी रणनीति तैयार करने का आह्वान करता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Article 23 of the Constitution outlaws human trafikking. we have laws to combat the same. Yet, controlling the problem is still far from being achieved.

A complex problem:

→ Trafficking often involves women and children from Nepal & Bangladesh. It therefore is a cross-country issue.

→ Some children willingly run away from their homes. Similarly, some women willingly take part in flesh trade.

→ Human trafficking often has a nexus with forced organ donations and the begging mafia.

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→ Many of those trafficked end up as maids in households or workers in factories.

A recent International labour Organisation backed report described this as a form of 'modern slavery', noting that the problem is acute in India.

To deal with the issue, an effective strategy is required:-

1. Shelter homes must be revamped to provide meaningful education and skills for those rescued. linkages with skill India Mission could be made.

2. The success of operation Smile for rescuing missing children must be replicated for missing women.

3. Better opportunities should be

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provided for women who engage in sex trade for quick money.

4. Effective police coordination with police of other countries should be provided.

5. Border posts should be made more foolproof to breach.

6. Use of Aadhar biometric data should be used to reunite children with their families.

Way ahead:

Urgent policy intervention is required to realise the mandate of our constitution.

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14. A weak teacher education system is at the core of India's problems in school education. Evaluate. In this context, also enumerate the recommendations of the High-Powered Commission on Teacher Education constituted by the Supreme Court of India.

कमजोर शिक्षक शिक्षा प्रणाली स्कूली शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में भारत की समस्याओं के मूल में है। मूल्यांकन कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, भारत के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा गठित शिक्षक शिक्षा पर उच्च-स्तरीय आयोग की अनुशंसाओं को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

The recent decision of the Government giving teachers who were appointed under the Right to Education Act a deadline to acquire necessary qualifications speaks volumes.

↳ To fulfill the 1:30 teacher student ratio, unqualified & poorly trained teachers have been appointed.

→ The lack of a credible teacher training system leads to poor education outcomes.

→ The problem is exacerbated by the fact that most primary level teachers are there out of

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compulsion and not by choice. This leads to poor base development of young children.

→ Unenthusiastic teachers further make education feel like a burden for first generation schoolgoers.

→ A week Teacher education also leads to non-uniformity in standards of education imparted.

→ This further widens the public-private school divide.

To cure the problem, a High powered commission in 2012 gave its report citing various measures, including but not limited to :-

1. A teacher assessment & accrediation center to be set up.

2. Overhauling the National Council of Teacher Education

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However, not much progress has been seen on this front.

Way ahead:

- A strong teacher training is essential for better human resource development
- As teachers are highly paid in government schools, it is essential that quality is maintained.
- The politisisation of education should be stopped. Article 171 which provides for teachers in legislative councils must be revieved, as this leads to corruption in teacher selection.

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15. It has been argued that the recent order of the Supreme Court to prevent the misuse of Section 498A institutionalises the prejudices and rehabilitates the myths, which the women's movement in India has battled over decades. Discuss.

यह तर्क दिया जा रहा है कि धारा 498A के दुरुपयोग को रोकने के लिए सुप्रीम कोर्ट का हालिया आदेश वस्तुतः उन पूर्वाग्रहों को संस्थागत एवं उन मिथकों को पुनर्स्थापित करता है, जिनसे भारत में महिला आंदोलन ने कई दशकों तक संघर्ष किया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently, the Supreme Court in a case observed that s.498A has become a weapon to harass the husband and in-laws as it provides for immediate arrest in case of cruelty with a married woman.

Accordingly, it suggested :-

- Setting up district committees who will examine the merits of the complaint and submit a report to the police.
- Police cannot arrest without the report, but can arrest if the woman has been harmed.

This order has faced a lot of

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criticism :-

1. It promotes vigilantism as the welfare committees will consist of members of society.

2. The delay in arrest will allow the in-laws to abscond.

3. It is an abdication of the State's duty to administer justice as it is delegated to a non-statutory body.

4. Waiting for the woman to be actually harmed exposes the woman to great threat to life.

5. It perpetuates the patriarchal view that women cry wolf and wreck homes. It does not take into account the rationale of the section to help women who are abused & ~~not~~ subject to violence.

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At the same time,

- Husbands and in-laws have been harressed in some instances.
- The immediate arrest brings irreperable harm to reputation even if the case is subsequently found false.

Way ahead:

- The judicial overreach in creating the committees should be reviewed.
- Better mechanisms must exist within the formal machinery to cull out false cases. Eg: Having better investigations by police.
- Misuse of the law by a few should not lead to fundamentally changing the scope of the law for those it seeks to protect.

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16. As strategic interests between India and US continue to converge, defence has emerged as a major area of cooperation between the two. Discuss the significance and possible implications of this development.

जैसा कि भारत और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के बीच रणनीतिक हितों का एकीकरण जारी है, रक्षा दोनों देशों के बीच सहयोग के एक प्रमुख क्षेत्र के रूप में उभरा है। इस विकास के महत्व और संभावित निहितार्थों की चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently, the United States gave India the title of a 'major defence partner'. with this:

- India has access to US military technology and tact on par with US' allies.

Strategic interests between US and India continue to converge:-

1. The recent admonition of Pakistan harbouring terrorists by the USA.

2. Both US and India want to control the Afghanistan conflict, where Russia supports the Taliban. US sees India as a 'leveller' in the region.

3. Both US and India are threatened

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by the meteoric rise of ~~bot~~ China.

4. Both stand against increasing radicalisation by terrorist groups

This has led to defence emerging as a major cooperation area:-

1. The malabar exercise involving US, India and Japan.

2. USA led training for Indian armed forces

3. The recent Strategic Partnership model in Indian defence procurement may see participation of US based original equipment manufacturers.

Implications of this development:

- USA has traditionally aligned itself with Pakistan. The current

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situation marks a change in the trend.

2. The defence cooperation marks de-hyphenation in sectoral interests, since India and USA have issues with IPR policy & agriculture subsidies of India.

3. A US-India defence partnership augurs well for the important role of India in the sub-continent.

To conclude, India must utilise this opportunity well. At the same time, India must remain on guard and enter into partnerships with other countries as well.

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17. India's contribution to peacekeeping missions of the United Nations has remained steadfast despite changes in the nature, form and variety of UN peace keeping missions. Examine.

संयुक्त राष्ट्र शांति स्थापना अभियानों (UN peace keeping missions) की प्रकृति, ढाँचे और आयामों में परिवर्तन के बावजूद संयुक्त राष्ट्र के शांति स्थापना अभियानों में भारत का योगदान निरंतर बना हुआ है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

The United Nations does not allow countries to intervene in each other's internal affairs. Any interference can be done only through Peace keeping missions sanctioned by the UN security council.

- India has been one of the largest contributors of armed personnel to US peacekeeping missions.

- The peacekeeping missions initially occurred after the 2nd world war to rebuild damaged nations.

- over time, involvement was in Korean war, Vietnam war.

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- Presently, we have peacekeeping missions in Syria, Palestine, Afghanistan where they fight rebels

- Despite the changing nature of the peacekeeping missions, India has constantly contributed.

- The rationale behind this can be seen in Article 51 of the Constitution which states that India must act towards international peace and harmony.

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18. India's partnership with Africa is an amalgam of African development priorities as well as India's development objectives. Discuss. Also highlight the initiatives taken by India in this context.

अफ्रीका के साथ भारत की साझेदारी अफ्रीका के विकास की प्राथमिकताओं के साथ-साथ भारत के विकास लक्ष्यों का सम्मिश्रण है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही भारत द्वारा इस संदर्भ में की गई पहलों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

That the first Presidential visit of Ram Nath Kovind was to ~~the~~ Djibouti & Ethiopia speaks volumes on the important role given to Africa by India :-

1. India's initiatives are in line with African development priorities as seen in Agenda 2063.

2. India's own development objectives too play a role here :-
   ↳ The theory of string of pearls, of Chinese geo-encirclement of India with naval ports and bases is alarming.

→ To counter the billion dollar investments by China in

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Africa under its one belt one road project is alarming for India & India by getting involved in African development.

→ India has historical and cultural ties in Africa

- Indian diaspora in Africa
- Soft power of Gandhiji in Africa
- Non Aligned Movement.

To build on this relationship, India has taken the following steps :-

- Development of Asia-Africa Development Corridor with Japan
- Extending lines of credit to the African Development Bank
- Giving strategic partnership status to Rwanda
- Training 'solar nannies' in

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Kenya ~~to~~ to harness solar power

- Hosting the African conference in India in 2015.
- Exporting cheap medicines to Africa

To conclude, India rightly recognises the important role of Africa. African support is also crucial for India to get permanent membership in the security council of the UN.

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19. Comment on the role of International Court of Justice in upholding the values of international law. In this context, also highlight the association of India with the ICJ over the years.

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विधि के मूल्यों को बनाए रखने में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय न्यायालय की भूमिका पर टिप्पणी कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, विगत वर्षों में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय न्यायालय के साथ भारत के संबंध को भी प्रकाशित कीजिये।

The International Court of Justice was established by UN Charter post World War II. It promotes adherance of international law by

1. Deciding contentious cases between nations under treaties

2. Deciding on questions referred to it by the UN.

Its role is important as:-

- It acts as a world court and enables nations to resolve their disputes peacefully.

- It has helped in the adherance of treaties by nations.

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- Its judges are from diverse parts of the world. This gives its opinions legitimacy.

Yet, it is not a fully effective system as:-

- only nation states can bring disputes. Non-state actors cannot approach it.

- There is no foolproof enforcement mechanism.

Despite these shortcomings, its role has been vital in keeping international peace.

India's association with the Court

→ India has taken disputes to the Court, the most recent being the Kulbhushan Jadhav case which was decided in India's

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favour.

→ Presently, an Indian, Justice Dalveer Bhandari occupies a seat on the 9 member bench of the Court.

→ India was a founding member of the UN Charter and its association with the Court has stood the tests of time.

Continued association with the ICJ along with following its decisions by all member countries is conducive to world peace in today's multipolar world.

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20. In view of the focus on trans-regional economic corridors and changing regional geo-politics and geo-economics, critically discuss the idea of an Indo-Pacific Economic Corridor.
पार-क्षेत्रीय आर्थिक गलियारों एवं बदलती क्षेत्रीय भू-राजनीति और भू-अर्थनीति को ध्यान में रखते हुए, भारत-प्रशांत आर्थिक गलियारे के विचार पर आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

With the fallout of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement, the Indo-Pacific region seems to be in an ideal position to work towards the idea of an economic corridor.

Changing regional geo-politics -

- The meteoric rise of China with its OBOR project dominates the scene
- Its aggression in South China Sea, Doklam and Tibet makes Indo-Pacific countries wary of its intention
- North Korea's nuclear weapons pose a risk to regional stability.
- Noodle-bowl multilateralism is seen with groups such as ASEAN, BIMSTEC, Mekong Ganga Cooperation

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along with many bilateral partnerships.

Geoeconomics

- The fall of TPP leaves a vacuum.
- The RCEP [Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership] should be pushed, and more countries should be added to the loop.
- In the alternative, a China-less partnership of the Indo Pacific states including the Americas can be forged.
- With important sea lanes of commerce, rich resources & endowed fishing grounds, the Indo Pacific region is an apt candidate for regional

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economic corridor.

To conclude,

- the idea of an Indo Pacific partnership is ripe. A shift from bilateral free trade agreements to more comprehensive regional agreements is necessary for a more secure world.

- Contentious issues such as intellectual property rights and disparities between the developed and developing countries of the region must be kept in mind.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 876)

Name of Candidate	Saumya Sharma		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	95371
Center	Online	Date	5 Oct'17

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
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15	12.5	
16	12.5	
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18	12.5	
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Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
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5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
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7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. While India has taken a number of steps in order to substantially improve its ranking in the World Bank's 'Ease of Doing Business' Index, it needs to take further action in this regard. Elaborate. Also analyse the utility of these rankings vis-a-vis India's objective of facilitating a sound entrepreneurial environment.

जहां, भारत ने विश्व बैंक के 'इज ऑफ़ डूइंग बिज़नेस' (व्यापार करने की सुगमता) सूचकांक में अपनी रैंकिंग में सार्थक सुधार करने हेतु कई कदम उठाए हैं, वहीं भारत को इस संबंध में आगे और अधिक कार्यवाही करने की आवश्यकता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही सुदृढ़ उद्यमिता वातावरण प्रदान करने के भारत के उद्देश्य के परिप्रेक्ष्य में ऐसी रैंकिंग की उपयोगिता का भी विश्लेषण कीजिए।

In order to improve its business environment and leverage its economy, India has taken a number of steps, including certain macro-economic structural changes.

1. Introduction of GST - one nation, one tax
2. Pushing digital economy -
3. e-Filing of all major forms for exports, imports
4. Bringing 4 labour codes to make compliance easier
5. Abolishing the Foreign Investment Promotion Board and liberalising FDI.
6. Sagarmala, Bharatmala & Setu Bharatam

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projects to improve connectivity & logistics.

7. Establishment of National Industrial Corridor Development Investment Trust (NICDIT)

8. Make in India, MUDRA loans; Start up India

However,

Despite these promising reforms the India rank in World Bank's ease of doing business report is a low 131.

Further steps need to be taken in this regard:-

1. Easing the policy rates to boost investment
2. Creation of more meaningful jobs
3. Reducing the gap between labour skill supply & demand by market oriented training.
4. Speeding up clearances for stuck projects
5. Strengthening the bond market for easier credit.

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Efforts in this direction will further boost production and improve ease of doing business. These rankings such as

- Ease of Doing Business
- logistics Performance Index
- Financial Stability Reports

play a vital role in attracting investment as they indicate a stable, conducive financial environment in comparison to other nation.

However, at times such rankings may not give a true picture due to low sample size, faulty methods. They also do not capture inter-state disparity.

→ To fix this, the NITI Aayog & RBI have been releasing their own indices for India to ensure prospective investors have a holistic picture of India.

Such an exercise further facilates the creating of sound business environment through competitive federalism.

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margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2. In wake of the agrarian crisis that the country is witnessing, discuss the need for adopting an income-centric approach in preference to a production-centric one as the basis of agricultural policy. In this context, also highlight the steps that should be taken to achieve the goal of doubling the income of farmers by 2021-22 and the challenges that exist.

देश द्वारा सामना किए जा रहे कृषि संकट के आलोक में, कृषि नीति के आधार के रूप में उत्पादन-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण के स्थान पर आय-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण अपनाने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, 2021-22 तक किसानों की आय दोगुना करने का लक्ष्य प्राप्त करने के लिए जो कदम उठाए जाने चाहिए, उनके साथ-साथ विद्यमान चुनौतियों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

Despite the success of the green revolution, it is said that there is a crisis that runs deep in agriculture:

→ Farmers prone to price shocks with low insurance coverage and lack of real floor price for all commodities

→ low production for ~~all~~ crops except rice, wheat

→ lack of access to formal credit

Presently, the push to agriculture is production centric :-

- focus on subsidised inputs such as fertilisers and cheap electricity to boost production

- production to fill buffer stocks, even though at times the grain may rot & get wasted

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Even in times of high production, the income realised by farmers may still be low as:-

1. Prices crash due to excess production
2. Minimum support price exists only for certain crops, and may not be paid at times.
3. Fragmentation of agricultural market. Some farmers are unable to sell their produce in mandi.
4. Low focus on processing to increase value of produce.

Therefore, the need is for income centric approach. It can be achieved by the following routes:-

1. Price Deficiency Payment to farmers if sale price falls below market price, as proposed by Economic Survey 2016-17.

2. e-NAM should be made more popular. Forwards contracts with a route to have third party verification of produce before sale.

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3. More food processing parks with high quality export oriented products

4. Push to organic farming to cater the tastes of the elite who are willing to spend more on local produce.

Yet, a few challenges exist:-

1. All states have not implemented the latest Agriculture Produce Marketing Act, 2017

2. Size of farms is too small, and remains small due to prohibition of land leasing

3. Poor forward and backward linkages

Way forward:

A holistic development of farmers' lives must be done in order to double their incomes by 2022. The objectives of National Policy on Farmers, 2007 can be kept in mind to achieve the same.

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3. **It is argued that India's fiscal centre of gravity has rapidly shifted from the Centre to the States. Analyse the statement in context of the debate on fiscal discipline. Also, enumerate the key recommendations of the N.K. Singh panel on Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act.**

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि भारत का राजकोपीय गुरुत्वाकर्षण का केंद्र तेजी से केन्द्र से राज्यों की ओर स्थानांतरित हुआ है। राजकोपीय अनुशासन पर वाद-विवाद के संदर्भ में इस कथन का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, राजकोपीय उत्तरदायित्व एवं बजट प्रबंधन अधिनियम पर एन. के. सिंह पैनल की प्रमुख अनुशंसाओं को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

The Constitution mandates distribution of revenue between Center and States. Earlier, the Center used to have a share way larger than the States, making Center as the fiscal focal point

Yet, post the 14th Finance Commission recommendations, the share of revenue to be devolved to the States has been greatly increased. Now, States get 42% of grants, making them the fiscal center.

Other reasons are also at play in making States the fiscal center:-

1. With the passing of the goods & services tax, the states have gained a greater role in fiscal federalism.

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2. Due to rising urbanisation, the States propensity to spend on city infrastructure has increased. Municipal bonds are being mooted. This entails placing checks on State fiscal deficit.

3. States often announce massive loan waivers, which again adds to their fiscal deficit

4. States are stressed over payments under the UDAY (Ujjwal Discom Assurance Yojana).

In light of these factors, States have acquired a greater role. At the same time,

- the role of Center remains paramount
- the Center's fiscal discipline sets standards for the States to emulate.

The recent NK Singh committee was formed to discuss fiscal

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discipline. Its key recommendations are:-

1. The Fiscal RBM Act must be replaced with a Debt monitoring law.

2. It stresses that instead of an overall target for the nation, the fiscal target should include the States too. It ∴ should be 6%. (3% for Center & 3% for States)

3. Having a glide path towards fiscal stability with a 2% reduction every year, to reach 2.5% by 2022.

Way ahead:

The rising role of States in fiscal management is rightly emphasised by the NK Singh report. The FRBM Act must be suitably reviewed in this regard.

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4. Strategic sale of state-run firms is a prudent step to deal with the challenges being faced by the public sector enterprises in India. Comment. Also enumerate other measures that can be taken in light of NITI Aayog's suggestions in this regard.

भारत में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उद्यमों द्वारा सामना की जा रही चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए राज्य-संचालित उद्यमों की रणनीतिक बिक्री एक विवेकपूर्ण कदम है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही इस संबंध में नीति आयोग के सुझावों के प्रकाश में उठाए जा सकने वाले अन्य उपायों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Strategic sale refers to disinvestment in which the government's stake sale is more than 51%. The government no longer retains majority ownership but instead becomes a minority shareholder.

Every year, the government fixes some disinvestment targets. The exercise is favourable as :-

1. Privatisation of PSEs increases their productiveness as new management & work culture is brought about.

2. It reduces the burden on government and increases its assets, thereby being beneficial for fiscal consolidation

3. The money earned from disinvestment goes into the National Investment

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Fund, from where they can be routed for infrastructure projects.

4. The flab cutting overall promotes good governance and increases efficiency.

At the same time, it has a few drawbacks:-

1. The privatised firms work with a profit-motive. This may affect supply of goods & services at subsidised rates.

2. Newly privatised firms may suffer from mismanagement, forcing them to go sick and wind down.

As per the NITI Aayog, strategic sale must be favoured. The government should retain ownership only where it is absolutely necessary for it to do so.

In light of these suggestions, the

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following measures can be taken:-

1. Identification of loss making PSEs, and assessing whether it is prudent to keep them afloat.

2. Wind down PSEs which are no longer needed.

3. Other PSEs may be privatised and only the ones in strategic sectors such as defence may be kept with government control.

Way ahead:

Disinvestment is a beneficial exercise, which must be harnessed well:-

a) The proceeds must be used for capital-generating activities

b) The process must be made quicker and not remain stuck.

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5. Shell companies in India are neither legally defined nor properly understood. Analyse in the light of recent developments, prevalent understanding and steps required to effectively deal with shell companies.

भारत में शेल कंपनियां न तो कानूनी रूप से परिभाषित हैं और न ही उनके विषय में उचित समझ है। हाल के घटनाक्रमों, व्याप्त (प्रचलित) समझ और शेल कंपनियों से प्रभावी ढंग से निपटने हेतु आवश्यक कदमों के आलोक में विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Shell companies are those which do not carry out any business or productive activity. Instead, they only exist to route money to avail tax concessions in either tax havens or domestically.

In India, there is no specific provision on shell company. It can be incorporated as a regular company. It is delisted from the register of companies only upon being found by investigation to be a shell company.

Recent developments :-

1. Shell companies were delisted after demonetisation exercise and income tax department revealed their

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activities.

2. Many shell companies were named in the Panama papers.

3. Most of the foreign direct investment into India comes from Singapore, presumably through Shell companies

To ensure that shell companies do not continue evading and avoiding tax by routing money elsewhere, the following steps are needed:-

1. Stringent due diligence measures by Indian Corporate law Service officers before incorporating a company.

2. Constant check on firms that appear to be engaging in routing of money

3. Bringing out a law that deals specifically with all aspects

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of shell companies, like the Benami Transactions law.

4. Cooperating with Foreign Action Task Force, the Serious Fraud Investigations office to effectively investigate & identify shell companies

5. Publicly naming the promoters of shell cos.

Such measures, among others, can help reduce the present large number of shell companies present.

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6. If a larger population in India is to be involved in the economy in a big way, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are key. Elaborate. Also discuss the challenges faced by the SME sector in India and give an account of the measures taken by the government to deal with these.

यदि भारत में एक बड़ी आबादी को अर्थव्यवस्था में बड़े पैमाने पर सम्मिलित करना है, तो लघु और मध्यम उद्यम (SMEs) महत्वपूर्ण हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। इसके साथ ही, भारत में SME क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए और इनसे निपटने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का विवरण भी प्रदान कीजिए।

It is said that with a rising demographic dividend and competitive labour advantage, manufacturing sector is set to power our economy for the coming decades.

Majority of manufacturing units in India are small or medium, the reason being:-

1. lower cost of operations
2. lower requirement of adhering to stringent labour norms
3. higher tax concessions.

Further, they are necessary to involve a larger population as:

1. They are geographically more spread out as opposed to clustered large industries.

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2. They can be easily set up. A little investment spurs economic growth in a sustainable manner.

3. They usually require low skill workers, therefore absorbing even those without a higher education qualification.

Yet, some challenges remain :-

1. Poor access to credit.
2. low insurance coverage to protect from losses
3. lack of modern equipment & technology
4. Competition from cheaper imported items
5. logistics issues in sending goods to market

To fix these issues, the government has taken certain measures :-

1. Introducing MUDRA loans for easy access.

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2. Skill India mission to train workers.

3. Stand up India to boost greenfield ventures by SC/ST

4. Imposing import duties on cheap imports

5. Public procurement order to procure goods upto 50 lacs from Indian manufacturers

6. Bharatmala, Sagarmala and Setu Bharatam projects to boost logistical connectivity → India has increased its position in Logistics Index of World Bank

7. New National Energy Policy's focus on cheap electricity for manufacturing sector.

Therefore, these measures will certainly enable India to gallop to high growth on the back of its manufacturing sector.

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7. What are the reasons for the growing informalization of industrial labour in India? Discuss the issues associated with the phenomenon and reforms required to deal with them.

भारत में औद्योगिक श्रम के बढ़ते अनौपचारीकरण के क्या कारण हैं? इस परिघटना से जुड़े मुद्दों और उनसे निपटने हेतु आवश्यक सुधारों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

As per the Arjun Gupta committee report, about 90% of India's workforce is in the informal sector. Informal sector refers to unorganised sector which lacks any central management of organisation & employs less than 10 people.

The reasons for growing informalisation could be:-

1. Higher compliance costs associated with the formal sector.
   ↳ in terms of labour laws & other regulations

2. Increased propensity of being self employed - ranging from ~~doctors~~ cab drivers to street vendors

3. Ease of entry and exit in the

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informal sector than the formal sector.

4. loss making industries leading to labour lay offs and retrechment

Due to this phenomenon, certain issues emerge:-

1. The informal sector workers lack access to many social security benefits such as
   - provident fund
   - pensions
   - medical allowance
   - Benefits under Maternity Benefits Act & Prevention of Sexual Harrasment at Workplaces Act

2. The informal labour is more prone to price shocks caused by inflation.

3. The poor job security often leads to migration & cyclical

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unemployment

4. Due to low labour force participation rate in the formal sector, the figures of economic data are not fully accurate as the data for informal sector is projected using secondary parameters.

Reforms required :-

1. The cost of formalisation should be reduced as presently many firms are stuck at 9 workers deliberately.

2. Better tax rates that ease compliance

3. Skilling labour under Skill India mission to improve participation rate in formal sector

The formalisation of our economy is necessary to ensure sustainable growth.

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8. A number of far-reaching developments have taken place in the local and global energy space which have to be reflected in our own energy policy framework. Discuss.

स्थानीय और वैश्विक ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में कई दूरगामी घटनाएं घटित हुई हैं, जिन्हें हमारी अपनी ऊर्जा नीति के ढांचे में प्रतिबिंबित होना है। चर्चा कीजिए।

With the advent of Sustainable Development Goals, one of which is Goal 7 access to clean energy, it is imperative to have improvements in energy supply & procurement.

Developments in the local & global sphere:-

1. Push to renewable sources of energy
2. Reduced reliance on coal power
3. Discovery of shale gas, methane hydrates as unconventional sources of energy
4. Setting up of international solar alliance.
5. Signing of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

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Our own energy policy framework is reflecting these changes:-

1. Push to renewable energy (175 GW by 2022)
2. Incentivising ~~renewable~~ electric vehicles under the National Action Plan on Climate Change
3. Integrating the regular grid with the green grid
4. Introduction of green bonds
5. The National Electricity Plan 2016 says that no new thermal power plants needed till 2040.

At the same time, our energy policy recognises the historical bias in coal usage by developed countries. Using common but differentiated responsibility principle, our energy policy is practical :-

1. Around 2 crore households still lack access to electricity
2. Coal is the cheapest source

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of power

3. For houses using biomass based fuel, even coal & oil based power is a blessing.

Keeping these factors in mind, the Draft National Energy Policy emphasises coal power to boost Indian economy.

Therefore, our energy policy has the right elements of progressive developments, even as it realises that India is differently placed than the West and cannot blindly follow their lead.

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9. The Indian IT-BPM (Information Technology-Business Process Management) industry is a global powerhouse today and its impact on India and the world has been unprecedented. Comment. Also, mention the challenges being faced by India's IT-BPM sector.

भारतीय IT-BPM (Information Technology-Business Process Management या सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी-व्यापार प्रक्रिया प्रबंधन) उद्योग आज एक वैश्विक शक्ति का केंद्र है और भारत एवं विश्व पर इसका प्रभाव अभूतपूर्व रहा है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत के IT-BPM क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जा रही चुनौतियों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

The Indian IT-BPM industry comprises of a multitude of service providing firms that carry out transnational work. It is the backbone behind the rapid rise of the service sector's contribution to GDP.

Impact of IT-BPM on India:-

1. Highly remunerative jobs for skilled Indians
2. Development of Bangalore, Gurgaon as hubs of IT space
3. Increase in Foreign Direct Investment in India
4. Push to higher education and soft skills training such as English language which are in demand
5. Increased integration of India with the global economy.

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For the world, the impact has been positive too :-

1. Cheaper avenue for setting up back end operations in India by MNCs

2. Movement of foreign workers in India, and Indians abroad

3. Increase in world image of India as an IT powerhouse.

However, presently the sector is facing a host of challenges:-

1. Increased automation in the West reduces the need for specific back end operations to be outsourced

2. The quality of Indians being churned out of engineering and technical institutions is falling, and often skills do not match the market demand

3. Emergence of other low cost IT hubs in the world, coupled with stringent labour laws makes India

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lose its competitive streak.

4. Restrictions on visa imposed by major service receivers such as USA.

To conclude,

- the Indian information technology sector is now even more relevant in the present digital age
- operations could be diversified to rural area solutions to ensure firms remain profitable even if foreign investment stops
- India's efforts towards having a Trade Facilitation in Services agreement are encouraging steps for the sector.

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10. **An effective multi-modal logistics and transport sector will make the Indian economy more competitive. Analyse.**

एक प्रभावी मल्टी-मॉडल लॉजिस्टिक्स (बहु-रूपात्मक संभरण) और परिवहन क्षेत्रक भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था को और अधिक प्रतिस्पर्धी बनाएगा। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

As per the Economic Survey 2016-17, inter state and intra state trade within India is higher than trade with other countries. To further augment our trading capacities, it is necessary to have an effective transport & logistics sector:-

1. This will help build a seamless connectivity of backward and forward linkages.

2. The reach of products will be increased.

3. Integration of Sagarmala's export zones with dedicated freight corridors and Road linkages with Bharatmala project.

4. Signing of the TIR convention

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on customs will make cross-border road trade more easy.

5. Development of waterways inland under National Waterways Act will help harness river resources

6. The trade facilitation agreement will further boost exports.

7. The National Investment Council for Development of Infrastructure Trust [NICDIT] and its identified 5 industrial corridors will help promote integrated development.

Presently, a major complaint of manufacturers, exporters and importers alike is that reaching the hinterland of the country is difficult.

With the above mentioned steps

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that have been taken, multi-modal model of transportation will gain ground.

↳ Integration and cooperative working of various ministries is vital in this regard.

→ It will boost the Make in India idea.

→ It will further raise India's ranking on the logistics performance Index.

Challenges:

- Boosting production of industries itself
- High costs of land acquisition and slow regulatory clearances

By addressing these challenges, we can effectively harness the potential our geography offers to us.

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11. **Climate change threatens sustainable development, impairs socio-economic development and reinforces cycles of poverty across the globe. In this context, discuss the utility of climate risk insurance as an instrument within a comprehensive climate risk management system.**

जलवायु परिवर्तन पूरे विश्व में संधारणीय विकास को जोखिम में डालता है, सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास को क्षीण करता है और गरीबी के चक्र को मजबूत बनाता है। इस संदर्भ में, व्यापक जलवायु जोखिम प्रबंधन प्रणाली के अंतर्गत एक साधन के रूप में जलवायु जोखिम बीमा की उपयोगिता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Climate change has various negative effects:-

1. on sustainable development
   ↳ loss of species of biodiversity can alter patterns forever.
   → Earth's capacity to tackle the harms of development gets progressively reduced.

2. Socio-economic development
   ↳ agriculture productivity is hit
   ↳ health & consequently economic output is affected

3. Poverty
   ↳ As more people become vulnerable, poverty becomes commonplace.

To ensure better adaptation and management of climate change which is already upon us, climate insurance has been proposed.

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India has one of the lowest insurance coverage percentage at 3%. Climate risk insurance forms a miniscule part of it, and is focused in agriculture.

A comprehensive climate risk management system will involve making arrangements to increase resilience and increase adaptability with an integrated approach

↳ Climate risk insurance is relevant to achieve this end as:-

1. Will help tide over un-expected losses due to heat waves, cold waves, excess rainfall

2. In setting the terms of such insurance, more research will be done which will increase our understanding of climate change

3. By paying a premium for such insurance, people will see the real cost of climate change and be pushed towards taking more

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sustainable life choices in energy use

However, climate risk insurance cannot be a panacea, as it can only save from the loss caused but not prevent the loss itself.

Way forward:

→ Comprehensive climate risk management should be achieved through

- Green Building Norms
- Faster Adoption of Manufacture in Electric Vehicles (FAME scheme)
- Shift to renewable energy
- A bottoms up approach involving the community to help realise Intended Nationally Determined Contributions under Paris Agreement.

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12. **Why are women particularly vulnerable to the impact of natural disasters? Also analyse, with adequate examples, how women can play a more effective role in disaster risk management cycle.**

प्राकृतिक आपदाओं के प्रभावों के प्रति महिलाएं विशेष रूप से सुभेद्य क्यों होती हैं? साथ ही, समुचित उदाहरणों के साथ विश्लेषण कीजिए कि किस प्रकार महिलाएं आपदा जोखिम प्रबंधन चक्र में अधिक प्रभावी भूमिका निभा सकती हैं।

More often than not, when a disaster strikes, women & children form the majority of casualties. The reasons for vulnerability of women could be:-

1. Biological factors: If women are pregnant, it hinders quick evacuation

2. Economic factors: Due to low labour force participation rate of women, they are more likely to be present in home during disaster. Men who are in fields working or in large sturdy factories are saved as the structure does not collapse on them

3. Their vulnerability is also high due to factors of dependance. If they lose an earning member, it is more difficult for them to restart their lives.

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In the recently released National Disaster Management Plan, 2016, the vulnerability of women to national disasters has been identified.

- Steps to quicken evacuation of women have been identified
- It calls for surveying pockets, before the disaster strikes, to identify pockets of high women vulnerability
- Meaningful relief and rehabilitation of women post disaster to help them lead more secure lives

Role of women in effective disaster management cycle:-

1. Selecting community women leaders to disseminate information of the response plan in the event of disaster

2. Roping in women to conduct risk assessment surveys

3. Educating women to maintain sufficient stock of essential

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provision in a safe space for when disaster strikes.

4. Role of women administrators in securing from disasters by effective planning

5. Women health personnel and doctors for post disaster care

6. Any intervention aimed at women will lead to better conditions for the children too.

To conclude, the role of women in the cycle of disaster management is crucial. It must be managed & harnessed well, in line with the sustainable development goals.

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13. **In view of the seriousness of heat waves and its consequences, greater attention is required for dealing with it as a natural disaster. Analyse in the context of recent developments and the actions taken by relevant government bodies.**

हीट वेव (ग्रीष्म लहर) और उसके परिणामों की गंभीरता के आलोक में, एक प्राकृतिक आपदा के रूप में इससे निपटने हेतु अधिक ध्यान दिए जाने की आवश्यकता है। हाल के घटनाक्रमों और संबद्ध सरकारी निकायों द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों के संदर्भ में विश्लेषण कीजिए।

With rising climate change, temperatures across the world have been increasing. India recorded the warmest year in 2016 from 1901. Heat waves are becoming common in Odisha, Rajasthan, Gujarat and other States.

The consequences of heat waves are many:-

1. Disorientation, loss of consciousness
2. Deaths of persons & animals
3. Drying up of water bodies

However, most of the effects of heat waves are preventable by taking simple policy steps.

Recently, the National Disaster Management Authority released

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Guidelines on Prevention & Mitigation of Heat Waves, 2017.

↳ These guidelines provide a blueprint to reduce the adverse affects of heat waves :-

1. Early warning system by relaying Indian Meterological Department data to citizens

2. Identifying and surveying pockets most prone to high temperatures

3. Increased coordination between authorities

4. Having specialised medical professionals trained in treating heat related sickness

5. Immediate measures such as :-

a) closing down schools during high heat periods

b) opening parks to provide shade to the needy

c) ordering no construction and

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outdoor activities between 12 - 4pm

d) Improving access to water in public places

e) Distribution of ORS

These simple steps go a long way in reducing heat strokes & deaths. In Odisha, where temperatures touched 48°C this summer, one district had no deaths due to implementation of risk reduction measures

To conclude, heat waves are going to become more commonplace. Ensuring effective implementation of these guidelines is of paramount importance.

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14. **While genome editing offers immense potential benefits in the area of healthcare, there are a lot of apprehensions regarding its use. Discuss.**

जहां, जीनोम एडिटिंग स्वास्थ्य सेवा के क्षेत्र में बहुत अधिक लाभ की संभावना प्रस्तुत करता है, वहीं इसके उपयोग के संबंध में काफी आशंकाएं भी मौजूद हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

Genome editing is a tool of biotechnology whereby the chromosomes containing the genetic material of a ~~person~~ living being can be modified to further a variety of objectives.

Recent techniques such as CaSPR-Cas9 molecular scissor genome editing have increased the utility of genome editing. Its benefits include :-

1. Health: Genome editing can be used to remove any genetic hereditary defects from embryo to produce healthy babies. Improved drugs.

2. Economics: It can be used to produce climate resilient crops and livestock.

3. Research: By performing genome editing, a better understanding

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of human genetics can be obtained

4. Elimination of illness, defects from many living organisms

At the same time, there are many apprehensions :-

1. Genome editing can be used to produce modelled babies, which is not only unethical but can also backfire if it goes wrong

2. The genome editing can cause health complications later in life

3. The effect of genome edited crops such as BT-crops is not fully established to be beneficial

4. If the technology falls in the hands of non-state belligerent groups, it can result in misuse and creation of unnatural organisms

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Way ahead:

- The benefits of genome editing are many.
- while we must give a push to this field by harnessing the talent pool of IISc of our country adequate safeguards and guidelines must be framed by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee to ensure its safety.
- Bioassaying should be done to analyse possible harmful effects.

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15. Discuss various ways in which supercomputers have benefitted mankind over the years. Also enumerate the objectives of the National Supercomputing Mission and the mechanism for its implementation.

उन विभिन्न तरीकों पर चर्चा कीजिए जिसके माध्यम से विगत वर्षों में सुपर कंप्यूटरों ने मानव जाति को लाभान्वित किया है। इसके साथ ही राष्ट्रीय सुपरकंप्यूटिंग मिशन के उद्देश्यों और इसके कार्यान्वयन के तंत्र को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Supercomputers refer to computers which have higher computational powers than ordinary computers. Supercomputers have played a major role in mankind's evolution

1. Significance in space missions
2. Big data analytics can be performed
3. Creation of foolproof security programme codes
4. Boost to research by discoveries such as Higgs Boson powered by supercomputers.

Realising the importance of super-computing, the National Supercomputing

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Mission was launched recently. It aims at

- creating a national super computer grid linking various supercomputer hubs
- these hubs will be located in IITs and IISc.
- connection through a high speed network, resulting in the creation of a National Knowledge Network.
- Creation of a class of highly skilled persons in the field of supercomputing
- Production of supercomputers & sub-components in India to boost the Make in India mission

Through this mechanism, the Mission aims to achieve the objective of:-

1) Further increasing India's

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stronghold in the field of information technology

2) Creating a niche field to attract young Indians. This will further help reduce the brain drain from India.

To conclude, the National Supercomputer Mission is a great step forward for the scientific progress of our country.

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16. Widely seen as a disruption for the traditional banking and financial institutions, cryptocurrencies have gained significant traction lately, at the same time creating a regulatory nightmare for regulators across the globe. Discuss.

पारंपरिक बैंकिंग और वित्तीय संस्थानों के लिए व्यापक रूप से व्यवधान के रूप में देखी जाने वाली, साथ ही विश्व भर में नियामकों के लिए एक नियामकीय दुःस्वप्न का निर्माण करने वाली, *क्रिप्टोकरेंसी* ने हाल ही में महत्वपूर्ण पकड़ स्थापित की है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The development of Bitcoin by the anonymous Satoshi Nakamoto in 2009 led to proliferation of various cryptocurrencies.

Cryptocurrencies are cyrptography backed alternate investment options. They are being favoured as:-

1. Give the owner full control over one's money due to no central regulation

2. Saved from regulatory shocks such as demonetisation

3. Transaction of cryptocurrency using blockchain creates a very transparent and safe option.

4. High value in present market conditions coupled with easy

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liquidity

This is creating a regulatory nightmare as:-

1. It creates a parallel money economy outside the control of government.

2. Can be used for black money hoarding & funding terror operations

3. Most countries except China & Japan do not have a regulatory framework in place

4. The cross border nature of transactions makes regulation difficult.

Way forward:

- Despite their high volatility, bitcoins are here to remain.

- It would be prudent to regulate Bitcoins and other cryptocurrencies

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to ensure they do not enjoy a free run.

- RBI's decision to regulate ~~bitcoin~~ cryptocurrency, and launch of Lakshmi as India's bitcoin currency are appreciable steps in this regard.

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17. **An internationally-binding agreement to strengthen the Outer Space Treaty of 1967 is both desirable and increasingly a necessity. Analyse in view of the traditional and emerging challenges in this arena.**

1967 की बाह्य अंतरिक्ष संधि को मजबूत बनाने हेतु एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाध्यकारी समझौता वांछनीय और साथ ही एक आवश्यकता दोनों है। इस क्षेत्र में पारंपरिक और उभरती हुई चुनौतियों के आलोक में विश्लेषण कीजिए।

In light of the Space Race that followed the launch of Sputnik satellite by the USSR, there were increased fears about the colonisation & nuclearisation of outer space.

↳ This led to the Outer Space Treaty of 1967, which declares space as global commons and mandates its use for peaceful purposes only.

Presently, the Outer Space Treaty seems outdated due to:-

- low number of signatories
- weak structure with no enforcement mechanism
- does not account for space pollution caused by space debris

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- due to rising private investments in Space by Elon Musk's SpaceX and the Indus Team of India, it is necessary to have a framework that binds private parties too.

Therefore, a new convention on the lines of Paris Treaty is necessitated

- Such an agreement should be visionary and must account for flexibility due to increased propensity for fast technological developments.

- The developing countries should be given a greater voice in formulating this treaty

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18. **Even after nearly 60 years in existence, AFSPA remains at the centre of debates with respect to countering violent insurgencies, role of the states and local communities. Discuss.**

अस्तित्व में आने के लगभग 60 वर्षों के बाद भी, हिंसक उग्रवाद का मुकाबला करने और राज्यों व स्थानीय समुदायों की भूमिका को लेकर AFSPA वाद-विवाद के केंद्र में बना हुआ है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The AFSPA is a special legislation that applies to conflict ridden areas. Seen as a mode of upholding law & order, it gives wide powers to armed forces stationed in such areas to:-

1. shoot a person on sight if any suspicion arises
2. enter and search any area or private home
3. protection to armed forces from prosecution for their acts.

AFSPA has been supported as:-

- It helps uphold the authority of the State
- Force is needed to curb violent and often secessionist movements

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- It boosts the morale of armed forces and ensures discipline
- That enough instructions are given to the forces to use minimal force

At the same time, the use of AFSPA has been widely resisted :-

1. The Supreme Court in a recent case held the killings of young men by armed forces in Manipur to be extra judicial killings & murders

2. The local communities have constantly staged protests as some members of the forces misuse their powers to enter homes and rape women.

3. AFSPA further fuels local anger towards the government due to various injustices committed.

4. In many states, AFSPA has been applicable 'indefinitely' and

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is not revoked even if the situation normalises.

Way ahead:

- It is the duty of the State to control violent insurgencies.

- However, the AFSPA must be reviewed to give way to an approach which
  - → is conciliatory towards locals
  - → gives indicators to distinguish between insurgents & local population
  - → uses minimal use of force, only when no recourse to judicial route is available.

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19. **Analyse the challenges and opportunities inherent in the push for indigenisation of defence production in India. Also, identify the measures through which indigenous manufacturing of defence equipments is being encouraged by the Government.**

भारत में रक्षा उत्पादन के स्वदेशीकरण की दिशा में निहित चुनौतियों और अवसरों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, उन उपायों की भी पहचान कीजिए जिनके माध्यम से रक्षा उपकरणों का स्वदेशी निर्माण सरकार द्वारा प्रोत्साहित किया जा रहा है।

Various committees formed for the defence sector, with Lt. Gen. Shekatkar Committee being the latest, have focused on the need to push for indigenisation of production.

↳ It is said that India does not have even a rifle that it can call its own.

→ The challenges include :-

- Signing of multiple defence deals with other nations to boost diplomacy
- Corruption and slow approvals with high delays and cost overruns in the indigenous sector
- Lack of faith by some in DRDO's capabilities.
- Excessive bureaucratisation of

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DRDO and the Defence Ministry due to which it does not enjoy the same level of freedom as ISRO.

There are many opportunities in this regard:-

1. India has the advantage of a large number of STEM subject graduates who can be used

2. The private sector is willing to participate in defence manufacturing

3. Limited technology transfer agreements with nations such as Israel have borne fruit

Recently, the government launched the Strategic Partnership Framework for the Defence Sector to boost production

↳ Contracts will be provided to private companies to work with original equipment manufacturers and

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produce defence equipment at home

→ Technology transfer deals being signed

→ Increased domestic procurement is on the agenda of the revamped Defence Ministry

Way forward :-

- DRDO could be overhauled & made separate from the Ministry of Defence, and made to report directly to the Prime Minister's office like ISRO to improve efficiency & independence.

- A career in DRDO should be advertised for youth participation

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20. India's ability to puruse a clear-cut strategic vision depends on its ability to improve institutional cooperation and coordination between the armed forces and civilian bureaucracy. Discuss.

भारत द्वारा एक सुस्पष्ट रणनीतिक दृष्टि का अनुसरण करने की क्षमता वस्तुतः सशस्त्र बलों और सिविल नौकरशाही के बीच संस्थागत सहयोग और समन्वय में सुधार करने की क्षमता पर निर्भर करती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

of late, multiple articles have been written by both the armed forces and civilian bureaucracy, each pointing fingers at the other for India's defence sector woes.

While the civilian bureaucracy claims that :-

1. Their administrative expertise is required for operations

2. Separation of powers entails them to be a connecting link between the forces and the Ministry ;

the Armed Forces claim that :-

1. The civilian bureaucrats often lack domain expertise to make efficient choices

2. Instead of actual meetings, file notings take place leading to delay.

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This conflict does not bode well for our strategic vision. The current world scenario requires effective cooperation within our country to have a strategic vision.

Steps that need to be taken:-

- The senior ministers should consult both the sides and resolve greivances at the earliest.
- The permanent chairman of the chief of staff Committee should be appointed to improve communication.
- The bureaucrats occupying top posts in the Ministry of Defence could be given brief training and longer tenures in the post to effectively take well-informed decisions
- The recently released Joint Armed Forces Doctrine 2017

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must be implemented in spirit

To conclude, our country has one of the best bureaucrats, and a highly integrity based military. It is necessary to work cooperatively in the interest of nation by harnessing skills of both.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1021)

Name of Candidate	Saumya Sharma		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	English	Registration Number	95371
Center	Old Rajinder Nagar	Date	15 July'17

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
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8	12.5	
9	12.5	
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13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

Signature of Examiner

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH.
3. All questions are compulsory.
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. Identify the key objectives of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. Also highlight the challenges in its implementation.

- The POSCO Act, 2012 is a much needed legislation targetting the dastardly act of child sexual abuse, which often goes unreported.
- It applies to all persons below the age of 18 years.
- It outlaws:
  - Penetrative assault
  - Sexual harrasment
  - Non-penetrative assault
  - Child pornography
- It gives child friendly procedures regarding evidence collection.
- It makes it a duty to report an offence if known.

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Challenges in implementation :-

① Conflict with rape law

- As per IPC, rape is presumed if committed with a girl below 16 years of age. Read with POSCO, it gives Hazy protection for girls in 16-18 year age group.

② Social attitudes

- Victims scared to report
- Usually perpetrator is a family acquaintance, which make the parents doubt the child.

③ Shielding child from police process

- Even where the parents know, they might not report if and retaliate through other means to save the child the hassle of being party to court proceedings

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Way forward:

- The initiative of e POSCO box is good as it ensures a forum to file complaints while ensuring confidentiality.

- Awareness generation :-
  Need to tell parents that process and procedure is child friendly.

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2. Discuss how the design of MGNREGA program makes it more successful than other rural development programmes.

- The MGNREGA i.e. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee program, launched in 2005 has been hailed as a groundbreaker and a trendsetter in the developing world.
- Its features are:
  - 100 days of employment guaranteed through express recognition and conferment of the right to work
  - Creation of durable assets that will boost capital development in the region.
  - Absence of contractors, minimal use of machines, and focus on manual work - skill generation
  - Focus on women - certain percentage of workers to be women.
  - Guarantee: In case, the government fails to provide work it has to provide wages to the beneficiary for the amount of days lost.

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- Before NREGA, we had other programes such as National Development Programme, Drought Area Development Programme, and others. However, the issues were:-

① No right to work, so no redress available in case of government failing to provide work.

② Over involvement of contractors

③ Lack of awareness

④ Bureaucratisation - leading to lesser work being actually sanctioned.

As mentioned above, the NREGA largely cures these defects.

- Recently, with the advent of ICT in governance, NREGA has been made more transparent through the use of Direct Benefit Transfer to transfer wages,

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- Despite all its success, the NREGA falters in some aspects

1. Poor quality of assets created
2. Guarantee not being upheld in many cases.
3. No value addition - the poor remain poor
4. NREGA wages lower than min. wages

Way ahead:

1. Use of Skill India Mission - integrating it with NREGA to ensure skilled workforce
2. Use of geotagging and remote sensing to monitor the quality of assets.
3. Creation of assets that a community actually needs - example - Toilets under Swach Bharat Mission.

With these, the NREGA will do full justice to its ideals.

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3. Self-employment of the poor has been an important objective of the anti-poverty programmes and SHGs have played a significant role in this. Elucidate with examples. Also discuss the problems which plague the model of SHG micro-finance in India.

- While poverty reduction is a major plank of the government's policy, poverty cannot be eliminated by simple programmes. There is a need to make the population self reliant and efficient so as to be able to take to self employment.

- However, self employment among the poor suffers from the foll. issues:-

① Lack of bargaing power
- Inability to access marketplace on equal terms; fear of big players

② Lack of social security
- Makes the poor hesitant to take risk.

③ Seasonal self employment
- Alternate between agricultural work & self employment. Eg:

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Rickshaw Pullers.

This is where Self Help Groups play a major role.

- The first SHG was tried as an experiment between women and NABARD in the late 1980s
- The reason for its success:

① Collectivisation, increasing bargaining power

② Providing a social security net

③ Special role played in women and specifically widow empowerment.

Eg: Lijjat Papad is a SHG.

④ Easier financing

Bank ⟶ SHG → Member

MFI ⟶ SHG → Member.

Yet, despite the success, SHGs micro financing model has its share of problems too:

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(1) Micro Finance Institutions, which proliferate in rural areas with low bank coverage, charge usurious interest rates.

- The problem is so bad that some states have had to pass legislation to curb this menace.

(2) MFI model promotes social pressure in case of non repayment of loan, leading to suicides.

(3) lack of mobility

- Hierarchies exist even within an SHG, making it difficult for small / weaker players to seek redressal.

The values of equality (of interest rates and within group) and fraternity as given in our preamble if followed will ensure success of the SHG-MFI model.

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4. Give an account of the issues that arise due to short tenure of civil servants in India. Critically discuss the move of setting up a Civil Services Board in order to address this problem.

- The issue of creation of a Civil Services Board has been amply dealt with ~~the~~ by the Admin Reforms Commission.

The issues:

① Most policy interventions require a long term planning, with montoring by same person.

② Yet due to frequent transfers on account of change in govt. or promotion, most policies are planned and monitored by many individuals.

③ This brings discontinuity in vision, which is a reason why most of our policy measures are ad-hoc in nature, and piecemeal.

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(4) Adding to the woes is the lack of culture of maintaing records and personal observation diaries, which means a new officer has to start from scratch.

The suggestions:

(1) It is therefore suggested that civil servants, especially those in key posts, should be given a sufficiently long tenure of 4-5 years.

(2) Posts should not be provided just before retirement, but instead when there is enough time for the appointee to execute & design the policies.

(3) This appointment to key posts is being sought to

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be done by the creation of a Civil Services Board.

Way forward:

- The idea is good, yet, any action must ensure
  - The board is transparent
  - Appointments are not based on nepotism / extraneous considerations.
  - Appointment of the members of the Board itself is made with due regard to principles of natural justice.

This will ensure reduction of policy paralysis on account of short tenure.

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5. India's health system is one of the most privatised in the world, poorly regulated and accessible only to those with income levels well above the average. Comment.

- India is set to have the world's youngest population by 2020.
- In order to reap the benefits of its demographic dividend, investing in health and education is paramount.
- Yet, India spends less than 2% of its GDP in the Budget on health.

Issues in the Govt Sector :

(1) The present system of heathcare in India is :

(District level) District Hospital (3° healthcare)
↑
(Block level) Block Hospital (2° healthcare)
↑
(A group of villages) Primary Health Center (1° healthcare)
↑
(At every village) Sub - Centre [Nurse and auxillary mid wife]

- The first point of contact is the Sub center, poorly staffed with

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ASHA or other paramedical workers. ASHA workers are overburdened, with the 2016-17 budget transferring a large set of responsibilities on them [manning one stop Mahila Shakti Kendra as well]

- The patient almost always is referred to the PHC, which takes time and may result in deaths.

(2) lack of bedding in hospitals

(3) Curative; and not preventive.
- The focus is usually to act once the person is sick and not prior to it.

(4) Government doctors illegally continuing with private practice due to low pay

(5) Hygiene problems - hospitals are breeding grounds of diseases

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(6) Safety issues : Recent fire at AMRI in Kolkata.

(7) Initiatives like PM Rashtriya Swasthya Mission - creation of tertiary AIIMS like centers
↳ only buildings, no doctors
↳ excess government control in appointments

This state of affairs ensures that healthcare in government hospitals is unsatisfactory and patients are either pushed to the private sector [where affordable] or wallow in apathy.

Positive initiatives :-
(1) Jan aushadhi stores
(2) Delhi Govt's announcement regarding free surgeries for all
(3) Rationalising price of stents.

Yet, we need a broad long term policy instead of a piecemeal approach.

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6. Keeping in mind the importance of NGOs in India's development process it is imperative that adequate legal and regulatory mechanisms should be in place. Discuss in the context of recent developments.

- Recently, the Home Ministry cancelled the licenses of a large number of NGOs. This led to a furore that NGOs are being targetted.
- NGOs play an important role in development. Examples:
  1. Environment issues: Narmada Bachao Andolan
  2. RTI: Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan
  3. legal aid: Public Union of Civil Liberties (PUCL)

→ NGOs pressurise government into enacting beneficial policy.

→ Concerns:
1. Being said that NGOs are promoting vested interests and thwarting development
2. That NGOs are receiving foreign donations from sources undisclosed and many are shell organisations

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- Need for Regulation

(1) Present Regulation:

→ Under the RTI, NGOs receiving substantial government funding are under a duty to disclose.

→ Prevention of Corruption Act: Applies to NGOs with foreign funding

→ Foreign Contribution Regulation Act Enacted to regulate foreign funding, it makes it easier for Political Parties to access funding than NGOs.

→ Income Tax Act: NGOs have tax exemption

(2) Need for change:

→ Transparency
The cancellation of licenses is done in an opaque manner without following principles of natural justice. The report should be open to all.

→ Licensing
Presently, NGOs are granted

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licenses for a 5 year period. This can be increased.

→ Disclosure and Accountability

- As the ARC has recommended, NGOs should disclose annual reports and accounts as they are in the public domain

Way ahead:

Perhaps it is time to prepare a NGO centric law, consolidating and reforming all enactments that apply.

This should be done by consulting all stakeholders to ensure the vibrant role of NGOs remains intact, plurality of opinions remains intact and NGOs are allowed the space to dissent without fear of license cancellation.

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7. While on one hand, there has been proliferation of use of digital technology, on the other hand, resulting digital dividends have not been forthcoming. Analyse.

Proliferation of Digital Technology

- e Governance - Virtual Reality
- e Healthcare - GPS
- Online shopping - UPI, Mobile Wallets
- Online grievance redressal
- High tech gadgets being developed every day.

- The 21st century world is truly in the grip of digital technology, which has made our lives easier, simpler and better.

- Unfortunately, the digital dividends have not been forth coming.

(1) General Populace

- Only the educated, mostly urban class citizens are fully harnessing its potential.

- Despite there being 1.2 Billion mobile connections in India [TRAI statistics], the proliferation of

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mobile internet is not even a fraction of this.

- Mental Block: Adults are unwilling to learn even where they have the resources.

(2) Businesses and Private Sector

- Not all have been readily accepting,
- Clash between online stores and brick and mortar stores [seen as conflicting & not complementary]
- No uniformity

(3) Government

- E governance is at its peak.
- Yet, no uniformity between websites of different departments.
- Example of Andhra's Core Dashboard needs to be made famous.

Solutions to realise its full potential (dividend):-

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1. Data Security.
- Need for data security policy to allay privecy fears.

2. Use of blockchain technology in governance.

3. Proliferation of Meghraaj, Digi locker by awareness generation.

4. Uniformity → Incentivising all hospitals, pvt establishments to shift to digital tech.

5. Easy interface → To help anyone understand.

6. ICT in Education
- SWAYAM MOOCs, other online courses,
- online assesments from a young age to ensure a digitally responsible and aware future generation.

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8. The public policy requirements of the 21st century demand a bureaucracy less generalist in nature. Analyse in the context of Indian civil services.

- Generalist bureaucracy refers to the present system of top governance in India comprising of IAS, IPS. This is in contrast with specialist civil service comprising Indian Eco. Service, Indian Forest Service.

- Challenges of the 21st century :-

(1) Urbanisation
→ Problems range from architecture, transport, health, education, waste management.
→ A general vast experience probably will be insufficient to deal with the problems

(2) Proliferation of Technology
→ Cyber attacks, cyber fraud, identity theft, cyber wars.
→ These again require a niche experience and education to provide solutions in tune with the times.

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(3) Changing role of State

-> Unlike olden times, the State now has to work hand in hand with private players.

- These, inter alia, have given rise to the call for specialist bureacracy.

(1) Revolving Door Policy :-

- By allowing private sector talent to enter government service with easy exit [contract employment]

(2) Lateral Hiring :-

- The recent PMO proposal to have top private honchos roped in for mid level joint secretary positions, and be retained.

- Issues:

· The revolving door policy may lead to leakage of sensitive info.

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- Very few will be willing to leave their well paying private sector jobs

Way Ahead:

- Need to frame a policy with all stakeholders.
- Not all services will require these lateral hires. It should be only for the services which have a degree of specialisation.
- Shuffling within the services [intra service]. For example, the post of TRAI chairman can be given to an IAS officer with experience in the field.
- Providing technical specialists to assist the generalist posts

  Eg: Andhra Pradesh government recently hired Indian School of Business graduates to work with District Collectors.

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9. Explain how the National Digital Library (NDL) can bring a fundamental shift in the paradigm of education and research. Also highlight the challenges that need to be addressed to make NDL self-sustainable.

- National Digital library, being set up under the Digital India Mission will truly usher in e-Kranti in education.

- Features:
  1. Thousands of titles, for fee
  2. Accessible to all
     ↳ Special screenreader access for those which visual disability
  3. Cuts down costs of maintaing physical libraries in thousands of cities and schools, instead only require a gadget and an internet connection.
  4. Cuts down costs of maintaing librarians and other staff

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(5) In collaboration with SWAYAM and MOOCs, will result in education reaching all corners of the country with internet access.

(6) Environment Friendly - less paper usage

Challenges :-

(1) Ensuring internet access through Bharat Net.
- Use of Facebook's Aquila or Google Loon can be had to increasing coverage.

(2) Digital Literacy
- Need to teach beneficiaries on how to operate and use the internet and connected devices.

(3) Attitude Change
- Most people still

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prefer to study and read using paper books as they find the experience of digital tech. not as fulfilling

(4) Provision of tablets & gadgets to students

If these challenges are addressed, it will certainly lead to a fundamental paradigm shift in education.

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10. Census 2011 observed that there has been a significant increase in urban homeless households in the period between 2001 and 2011. What are homeless households? Highlighting the challenges faced by them, discuss the causes for increase in such households. Suggest various measures to rehabilitate these households.

• Homeless households:

- The NSSO defines a household as a family of 5 or more, essentially consisting of Mother, Father and children.
- This 'household' need not necessarily live in a home.
- With lack of resources and capacity, households live under flyovers, in tarpaulin tents, and some just sleep on the footpaths.

• Reasons for increase [2001-2011]

→ Poor job avenues in villages and city dream as popular in discourse.

→ Increasing stress on agricultural land and chronic unemployment

• Challenges faced:

→ Harassment by government workers and citizenry alike.

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→ Unemployment
→ Lack of education (both adults & children)
→ No access to healthcare
→ No identity registration, documentation
→ Hygiene - diseases like cholera.
→ Vulnerability.
→ Lack of social security
→ Falling in the web of Begging Mafia.

• Measures for rehabilitation :-

(1) Construction of homeless shelters (all season, as presently we have winter shelters)

(2) Ensuring Aadhar registration
- → Linking to Bank Account
- → Access to PDS
- → Access to DBT

(3) Creation of a policy encompassing
- → Registration of workers in skill India mission
- → Registration in NREGA
- → Education for their children

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including portability of education from one school to another

- Provision of healthcare
- Imparting of soft skills
- Enrolment in various PM Bima Yojanas

Such a wide reaching policy will ensure transition of homeless urban households into urban economy assets by providing them requisite skills and resources to live a productive life.

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11. What is the criteria for a village being recognized as electrified? Examine the challenges present in rural electrification in India. Elaborate upon some of the recent initiatives of the government with a special emphasis on Deen Dayal Upadhayaya Gram Jyoti Yojana.

- The government has set the target of 100 % electrification of villages under DDUGJY.
- However, a village is considered electrified if only 10 % of the total households have electricity.

Which means, 90 % of the households of an electrified village are leading their life as before.

Challenges of rural electrification:

- Inter class and caste disparities
  - Electricity usually reaches homes of the already well off.
- Electricity theft
  - Where an overhead wire passes, people tend to 'cut' electricity from it illegally
- Lack of renewable energy proliferation.
  - Solar lamps and panels

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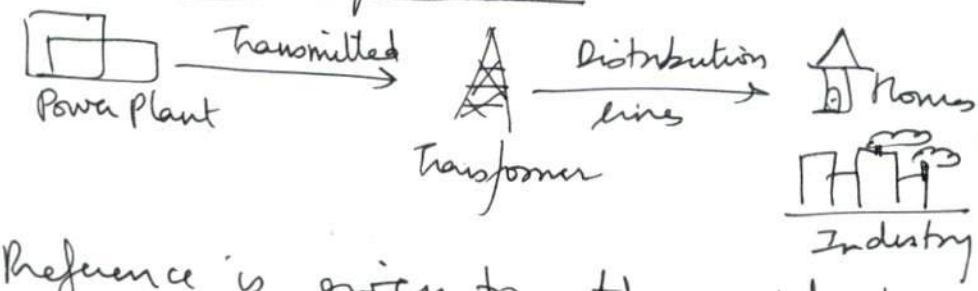
can be made more popular.

- Distribution problems.



Preference is given to the industries over homes, while homes reel under incessant power cuts.

- To cure these problems, the government has launched several initiatives:

(1) DDUGJY.
- Under this, 50% of homes electrified have to be SC/ST homes. This ensures parity.

(2) UDAY scheme
- Revival of power discoms, to ensure power.

(3) International Solar Alliance
- lead by India, to ensure renewable proliferation.

(4) Solar, wind, tidal energy potential

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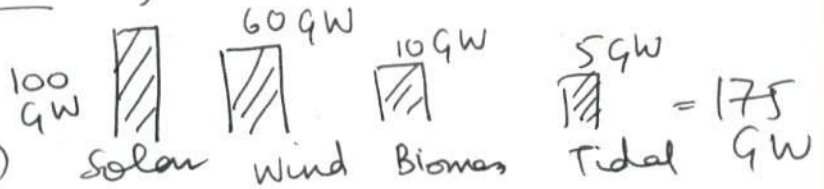
being harvessed, with govt. planning 175 GW Renewable Energy by 2022



(5) Linking renewable grid with non renewable one → to assure ensured supply through renewable & non renewable means.

(6) Encouraging off grid power generation by households and industry through private renewable energy.

All these initiatives will ensure equity in electricity, and the is not far when even the 8th 90% of electrified villages have access to electricity

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12. While the Right to Education (RTE) Act was based on noble intentions, implementation of many of its provisions remain ridden with problems. Discuss.

- The decisions of the Supreme Court in TMA Pai Foundation case and Unnikrishnan case led widespread demand of education, especially ~~private~~ primary education to be made a right.
- The Constitution was amended and the DPSP of primary education was given the status of a Fundamental Right under Art 21 A. Further, a fundamental duty was added under Article 51A making parents duty bound to educate their children.
- This led to enactment of Right to Education Act, 2009 which was notified in 2014.
- The Act provides for free and compulsory primary education

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for children between 6-14 years.

- It also provides for Economically Weaker Section category in top private schools.
- The Act has been a success, in so far as the Gross Enrolment Ratio in primary education is now 116%.
- Yet, the intention of the Act was to provide educated children, and not just enrolled children.

Challenges:-

- The PISA survey of OECD ranked Indian education as the second worst, better only than Kyrgyzstan.
- Pratham's ASER [Annual Survey of Education Report] ~~provides~~ shows that 75% Class III, 50% Class V and 25% Class VIII students

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cannot read a Class II text.

→ Quality of teachers is poor.
- ↳ Art 171 of Constitution ensures politicisation of teachers
- ↳ Teacher absenteeism, vacancies

→ No detention policy
↳ No concrete information on its efficacy.

→ S.7 of RTE Act: Provision of funds to schools → No timely progress

Conclusion :-

→ While efforts like Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat are hopeful, the need of the hour is a massive overhaul of the education system.

The sooner it is done by increasing budgetary outlays and incorporating ICT, the better it will be for our demographic dividend.

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13. Critically examining the key provisions of The Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill 2016, discuss whether a complete ban on commercial surrogacy is justified.

→ Surrogacy refers to the act of carrying a child of another by a female → essentially, using the womb of another woman.

→ The Surrogacy Regulation Bill, 2016

(1) Bans all consideration for surrogacy [i.e. no commercial surrogacy]

(2) only a married woman who already has a child can be a surrogate for altruistic reasons

(3) Only ~~INDIAN~~ HETEROSEXUAL married couples, married for 5 years can opt for it.

Point (3) above has resulted in a lot of debate too. The present discussion will be whether ban on commercial surrogacy is justified :-

Yes, it is Justified :-

(1) Exploitation of poor women

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in the name of womb renting

(2) No limit on how many times a woman can be a surrogate, leading to ~~commercial~~ health problems.

(3) Rejecting child.
- Instances have been reported wherein couples abandon the child if born with physical deformities / other complications, and no regulation of what happens next.

(4) Disparance in bargaining power in doctors

No, banning is not justified :-

(1) Agency of the surrogate mother.
- A poor woman has full right on how she wants to use her body. She should be trusted to know when she can stop being a surrogate

(2) Hope for childless couples, or those who want a child but cannot.

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(3) Regulate it, instead of banning it → will turn India into a medical hub.

Conclusion:

- The ethics of surrogacy is debatable. Yet, it is a fact that surrogacy has brought light in the life of many
- The total ban on commercial surrogacy might disadvantage couples who cannot find an altruistic surrogate
- What could be done is to allow commercial surrogacy only in case of genuine need. Allowing consideration to be given will ensure better pregnancy care also. The genuine need can be determined by a panel of doctors.
- Any such decision should be taken in a democratic manner.

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14. It is often strongly suggested that scarce government resources should be redirected in favour of primary education rather than higher education. In this context, analyse whether curtailing public spending in higher education would help in achieving the principle of equity.

- In India, the Gross Enrolment Ratio in primary education is 116%. Shockingly, it drops to around 20% in higher education.
- The Statistics themselves show that curtailing expenditure in an already shrinking higher education sector will be detrimental.

In favour of curtailing expenditure:-

- Most students are in primary education, funds should be allocated to ensure outcome based, solid primary education.
- Only if a child is educated properly at the primary level, can it pursue education at a higher level.
- Higher education funds provide for a faction, most of whom settle in other countries.

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Against curtailing expenditure :-
- our higher edu. insts. have paucity of seats, leading to even 90 % scoring students to take admission in private sector colleges.

- Funds are needed to bolster R n D, as is being pioneered by IISER and IISc.

Conclusion :
- There can be no extreme position here. The need is to look broadly at the need to push for demographic dividend realisation.

- This can only be done if adequate funds are provided in primary, middle and higher level. There needs to be progression to ensure that our population does not

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stagnate with an 8th pass qualification, courtesy the no detention policy.

- Any funding of higher education needs to also take into account the market demand and employability based education to ensure proper returns on the funds pumped in.

- Any funding of either primary or higher edu should not be at the detriment of the other.

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15. Accessibility is the key to inclusion and equal access for people with disabilities. Analyse. Also discuss the objectives and components of the Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan with a special emphasis on inclusiveness and accessibility index.

- Post people with disabilities are unable to lead to productive lives due to attitudes that surround them.
- The physical & mental barriers are such that they are not even given a chance to succeed.
- Therefore, the key to inclusion is access. Access to public spaces, access to education, access to employment.
- The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 in tune with the previous PWD Act, 1995 makes it a duty on the 'appropriate government' to provide access.
- The UN's Incheon Strategy and Convention on Disability also

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reiterate the same.

- In consonance with Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan, the government has taken many steps to ensure inclusion :-

(1) Inclusive & Accessibility Index comprising

a) Inclusiveness — 1, 2, 3 [Further components]

b) Accessibility — 1, 2, 3

Organisations are rated on this. Each sub component carries equal weightage. This provides a good barometer to judge how inclusive an organisation is.

(2) Making 50% of -
- railway stations
- government TV programes
- public buildings in capital cities
- public transport

Accessible.

(3) ADIP Yojana
- Distribution of prosthetics, hearing aids to disabled

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persons through government PSU ALIMCo.

(4) National Digital Library
- In consultation with DAISY foundation, to provide screen reader technology and access to books in digital form.

(5) 5% Reservation in government jobs and educational institutes

(6) Awareness and myth busting workshops.

Way ahead:

- Need to increase accessibility parameters to a 100%.
- More representation to disabled in politics

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16. The Olympic Task Force constituted to prepare an action plan for the next three Olympic Games is a step in the right direction. Comment. Also highlight other initiatives required to augment India's performance in the sporting arena internationally.

- India's performance in olympics remains dismal year after year. Reasons being:
  1. Parents do not want to push their children in sports as their is no employment guarantee once a player passes youth.
  2. lack of facilities for sports. Eg: Dipa Karmakar and Abhinav Bindra's success was largely due to self efforts.
  3. Corruption is rife.

- Therefore, having an Olympic Task Force for next 3 games, i.e. next 12 years is a step in the right direction:-
  1. Planning with direction. Abhinav Bindra's leadership will be helpful.

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(2) Training children earlyon, as is being done in US & China

(3) Selection of students who are naturally endowed with good sporting abilities.

(4) Proper supply of funds - long term effort will ensure it is not done in an ad hoc manner, less red tape.

Other initiatives required:-

a) Need to have a policy in place for a long term employment for olympic players. Present system of giving cash prizes by governments could be substituted by providing govt. jobs in case of good performance.

b) Need to push for women's cricket. India's women cricket

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team is doing very well, yet lackadiasical treatment. Similarly, women's hockey should also be given treatment at par with men's hockey.

c). Removing discrimination
- Presently, award prizes for women tournaments are less than half of what men tournamets get. Policy should provide for realisation of Article 14 right to equality.

These reforms, along with the Olympic Task force will ensure India's soft power increases in the field of sports other than cricket.

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17. Recent judgment of the Supreme Court, amending the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 has invoked varied reponses. Highlighting the amendment, critically examine its likely impact on the application of the law.

- The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 was enacted to protect women from the scourge of violence in their homes, which they rarely bring to light.
- It makes domestic violence a non cognizable, non bailable offence and provides for punishment upto 7 years imprisonment.
- Recently in 2017 the Supreme Court read down the provisions of the Act to hold that from now, a woman can accuse another woman and even a minor for causing domestic violence.

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Positive Impact:

- Violence can be caused by anyone
- Many a times mother in laws and sister in laws are party to torture
- They may also instigate minor children to abuse / hit the victim which makes it even worse.

Negative Impact :-

- It is yet another instance of an overbroad interpretation being given by the Supreme Court.
- It can now be used (misused) by the mother in law / sister in law to frame the victim instead, leading to multiplicity of proceedings.
- Minors, with little understanding of the situation and who are essentially acting as per orders will be embroiled in legal trouble without regard to principles of Juvenile Justice Act.

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Conclusion:-

→ The wide interpretation given by the Supreme Court can lead to unpleasant consequences, making it difficult to know who the actual victim is.

→ The Parliament should take suitable steps urgently to clarify the scope of application of the law to ensure it is not misused

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18. Inspite of its usefulness as a tool of transparency and accountability, the RTI Act needs to be amended as it is being widely misused, especially to blackmail public functionaries. Critically examine.

- The Right to Information Act, 2005 was a game changer in Indian polity hitherto marked by secrecy, courtesy:
  - Oath of secrecy taken by MPs
  - Official Secrets Act, 1923

  providing for non-disclosure.

- The Act provides for
  - Suo moto disclosure
  - Response by Public Info. Officer (PIO) within 30 days, failing which an appeal lies.

- It is now being said that the Act is a tool for blackmail.

① Vexatious applications filed for frivolous reasons waste the time and resources of public functionaries.

② Some RTI activists file

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applications as a hobby, just to know, even when there is no reason to ask.

(3) Some officers are threatened by the RTI route, making them believe that there is a scam happening under their nose which they do not know about. This blackmailing affects the working of honest officers who get in a neck-on-the-line situation.

Yet, the Act itself provides safeguards.

- As per s.8 of the Act, under the heads given, information need not be disclosed [national security etc.]
- The PIO can refuse an application if the information is already in the public domain.
- The fee paid by onerous method of Demand Draft itself

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acts as a disincentive to filing vexatious applications.

Way forward:

It is unanimous that the RTI has done more good than harm. Any amendment should be done only after properly weighing pros and cons. Unless a significant threat of blackmail is detected, it should not be amended as that will destroy the culture of transparency.

Yet, the interest of honest officers needs to be protected while allowing activists to cull out the corrupt officers through RTI.

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19. The transgender community has been among one of the most marginalized communities in India. Discuss. How does the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill 2016 seek to protect transgenders from discrimination and address the problems faced by them?

- The transgender community is one of the most visible, yet one of the most ridiculed and discriminated in India.
- The Supreme Court in its NALSA v. UOI judgment made a breakthrough by recognising transgenders as the third gender.
- To give effect, the Transgender Persons Bill 2016, introduced as a private bill was passed by the Parliament. It seeks to
  1. Provide reservations to transgenders in education & employment
  2. Recognising their 3rd gender

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(3) Focus on healthcare, especially HIV AIDS prevention

(4) Providing them with a life of dignity.

- Tamil Nadu is foremost in providing acceptance to transgenders. Eg: Lakshmi, the first transgender TV Host of India hails from TN.

- With the Act, it is hoped that transgenders will be able to lead a respectful, meaningful life.

- However, for this to happen, the legislation is not enough. There is need to change attitudes of

a) Transgenders about themselves

. Transgenders need to make full use of the progressive provisions of the law &

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gain employment, rather than sing, dance to extort money to earn a living

b) of the other two genders regarding transgenders.

- The provisions of the Act will ensure that parents do not give up their transgender child for adoption but instead see a hopeful and bright future for their children.

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20. Though the Forest Rights Act 2006 tries to undo the historic injustice done to the forest dweller and tribals, it has been argued that it is being misused. Critically analyse.

- The Forest Rights Act, 2006 is the first legislation to explicitly recognise the rights of tribals over their land.
- It a) empowers tribals, b) recognises them as land holders, gives c) them right over minor forest produce.
- It also gives tribals a say in development works being carried out in the forest. — The best example is the effort of Nyamgiri hills Kondia tribe in successfully evicting Vedanta.

~~Despite all~~

- Along with the Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana, it grants tribals means to live respectably, and also an opportunity to assimilate in the mainstream

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through scholarships.

Yet, it is said to be misused :-

(1) It focus more on land consolidation, leading to some tribals excluding others

(2) We still have forest land being diverted for non-forest purposes.

↳ The Compensatory Afforestation Act to compensate for diversion's efficacy is yet to be seen.

→ Acquisition under Land Acquisition Act under 'public purpose' is also easy of forest land.

(3) Tribals still do not have any say over major forest produce.

(4) Naxalites are being granted forest rights through tribals,

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providing them territory for Left Wing Extremism activities

(5) Conservation of forests has not actually resulted

→ Way forward :-

Tribal rights is a sensitive topic that needs to be dealt with care.

Any misuse of its provisions needs to be dealt with strictly without clamping down on the rights of innocent tribals.

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Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	95371
Center	ORN	Date	31 July 2017

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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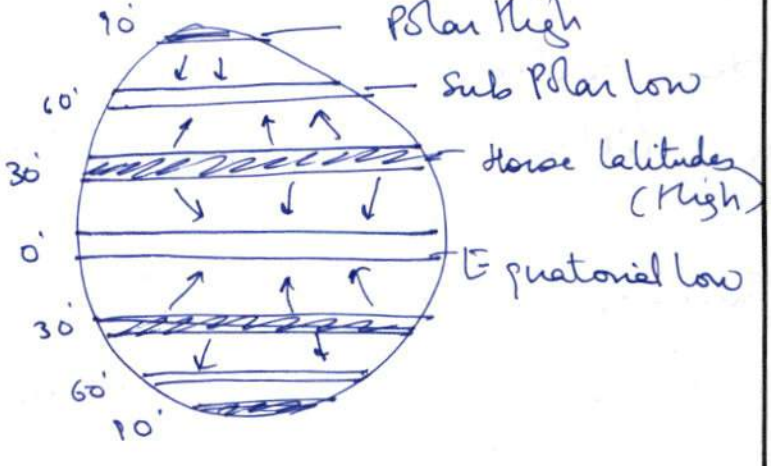
Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. What do you understand by seasonal shifting of pressure belts? What impact does it have on the formation of various climatic regions across the globe? Discuss its socio-economic significance.

वायुदाब पेटियों के मौसमी स्थानांतरण से आप क्या समझते हैं? विश्व भर में विभिन्न जलवायु प्रदेशों के निर्माण पर इसका क्या प्रभाव पड़ता है? इसके सामाजिक-आर्थिक महत्व की चर्चा कीजिए।

The Earth can be divided into various zones of high & low pressure. The wind from high pressure zones rushes into the low pressure zones



This gives rise to winds such as
- Polar Easterlies
- Easterly trade winds.

However, the position of these pressure belts is not rigid.

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- The belts shift, apparent to the motion of the midday sun.
- The Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ICTZ) forms as a low pressure trough, and follows the movement of the mid day sun.
- This shifting of the sun up north in the summer (June-July) and a little south during north hemisphere winter (November - December) shifts the position of the pressure belts a little by 5° - 10° latitude.

Impact on various climatic regions:-

(1) Rain in mediterranean climate

- In summer (June - July), the upward shift of the pressure belts causes the rain bearing westerly winds to shift up, leaving the mediterranean

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climatic regions dry. When the belts shift south during north hemisphere winter, mediterranean region experiences rain in winter.

(2) Monsoon in India

- The shift of the low pressure trough over India attracts south east & south west trade winds from around Australia, causing monsoon.

Socio Economic Significance

- Horticulture industry in mediterranean flourishes because of winter rain
- Monsoon and other rains: Most beneficial for agriculture
- The pressure induced winds help in sailing through sea lines of commerce
- Keeps the water supply going in rivers
- Influences the direction of ocean currents, which play a moderating climate role

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2. Explain the reasons for the formation of Sargasso Sea. Also, examine the factors for it being a region with one of the highest ocean salinity.

सारगैसो सागर के निर्माण के कारणों की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, उन कारकों का भी परीक्षण कीजिए जिनके कारण यह उच्चतम महासागरीय लवणता के क्षेत्रों में से एक है।

Formation:

- The Sargasso Sea is the only sea in the world bound by no land.
- Instead, it occupies the gyre formed by 4 north atlantic ocean currents:
  - North Atlantic Drift
  - Canary Current
  - North Eq. Current
  - Gulf Stream

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- A gyre refers to a system ~~of~~ bound by circulating water currents

- It is a ~~system~~ region of utmost calm waters, surrounded on all sides by fast moving ocean currents.

Distinct features :-

- The 4 currents deposit seaweed, and other material that they bring with them in this sea.

- The salts that are deposited here, coupled with the lack of any ocean currents, ensures that it is a region of high ocean salinity,

as there is no movement of water and intermixing.

- The sea also receives almost no winds, beign a region of

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utmost stillness.

- This leads to the water of the Sargasso sea being very saline & dense.

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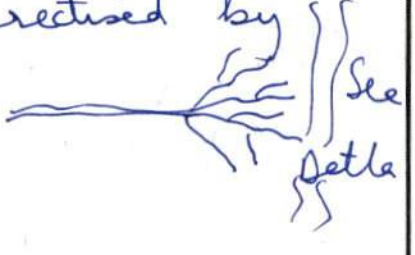
3. Why are river deltas important? Discuss the existing threats to river deltas and the measures needed to overcome these threats.

नदी डेल्टा क्यों महत्वपूर्ण होते हैं? नदी डेल्टाओं के समक्ष विद्यमान खतरों एवं इन खतरों से निपटने के लिए आवश्यक उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

River Deltas:

- When a river empties into the sea of a lake, it usually forms a delta unless the gradient of fall is too steep.
- As the river matures, its speed reduces. It deposits all its sediment near the mouth.
- The coarser load is dropped first. The finer sediments are the last to be dropped, and they end up forming new land when dropped
- The delta is charectised by braiding of streams



Importance-

1. Fertile alluvium for agriculture
2. Rich biodiversity, including mangroves
3. Mangroves form barriers against

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high waves and coastal erosion.

(4) Supports civilisations

(5) Provides multiple ecological services

(6) Provides rich fishing & aquaculture grounds

(7) The vegetation surrounding delta is a source of honey, wax.

Threats:

(1) Sand Mining
→ The sediment load discharged at the deltas is used to mine sand used in construction.
This destroys the delta.

(2) Human habitation
→ The delicate balance is affected by the presence of high density of population

(3) Loss of mangroves from delta leading to coastal erosion

(4) Over fishing

(4A) Discharge of effluents

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(5) Dredging
- By fishing boats / miners
(6) Inorganic farming in rich alluvium

Measures to tackle threats:-

(1) Creating buffer zones around the delta to cut down human impact
(2) Awareness generation of the population surrounding delta on the importance of the deltaic lobe and the services it provides
(3) Banning the mining of sand from the delta
(4) Prohibiting industries from discharging untreated effluents near delta.
(5) Protecting the delicate biodiversity by declaring area as national park / wildlife sanctuary
Example: Sundarbans National Park.

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4. Give an account of the different types of earthquakes based on their zone of occurrence. Identify the earthquake prone regions of the world with special reference to India. Also explain the reasons for the occurrence of earthquakes in geologically inactive regions like Peninsular India.

घटित होने वाले क्षेत्र के आधार पर विभिन्न प्रकार के भूकंपों का विवरण प्रदान कीजिए। भारत के विशेष संदर्भ में विश्व के भूकंप प्रवण क्षेत्रों की पहचान कीजिए। साथ ही, प्रायद्वीपीय भारत जैसे भूवैज्ञानिक रूप से निष्क्रिय/स्थिर क्षेत्रों में भूकंपीय घटनाओं के कारणों की भी व्याख्या कीजिए।

- Earthquake refers to a sudden movement in the Earth's crust. It is to be distinguished from the tremors that happen almost everyday.

- Based on their zone of occurance, we have two types of Earthquakes:-

(A) Zone of Convergence in Continental Crust

- where two plates push into each other, earthquakes are common around the region of their collision.

Eg: Indo Australian plate pushing into continental Eurasian plate makes Himalayas earthquake prone

(B) Ocean- Continental Collision

- As the oceanic crust comprising

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of SIMA is denser, it subducts under the continental crust & an earthquake may result.

(c) Ocean - Ocean Crust Collision

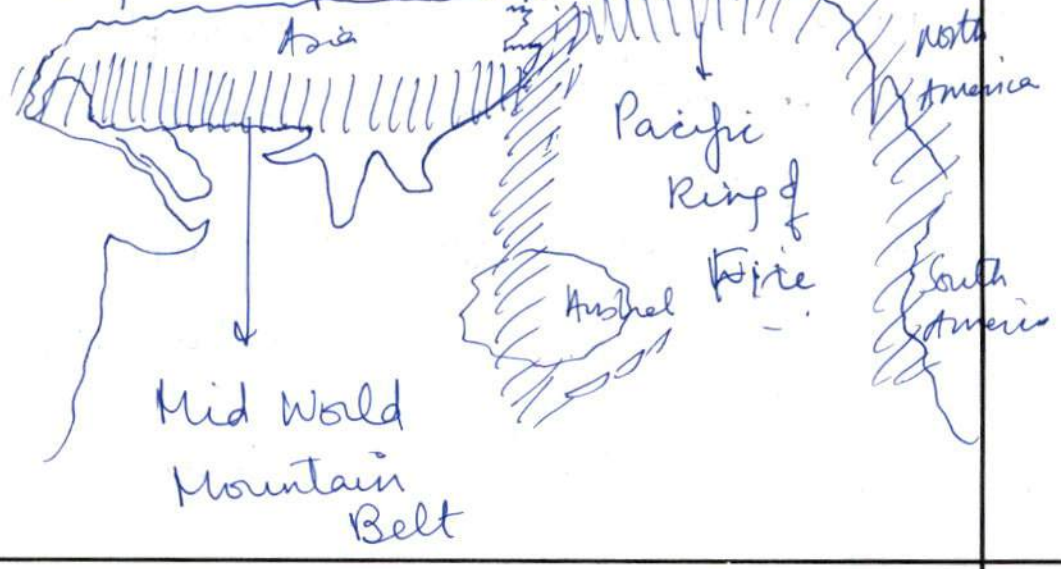
- It may also lead to tsunamis.

They may also be characterised as:-

1) Shallow focus earthquakes
2) Intermediate focus
3) Deep focus earthquakes

Depending on how deep within the Earth's crust they occur.

Earthquake prone regions of world:



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Earthquake prone zones of India.

Reasons for earthquakes in Peninsular India:-

1. Reservoir induced
2. Rock displacement disrupting the equilibrium may lead to earthquakes
3. Induced by mining, drilling
4. Induced by other construction work
5. Thermal & Nuclear power plant induced

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5. Explain the reasons for the following: (a) Erosional forms dominate in the west coast while depositional forms dominate in the east coast of India. (b) Western Ghats in Karnataka receive more monsoon rainfall than Maharashtra and Kerala.

निम्नलिखित के कारणों की व्याख्या कीजिए: (a) भारत के पश्चिमी तट में अपरदनजन्य रूपों की अधिकता या बाहुल्य पाया जाता है, जबकि पूर्वी तट पर निक्षेपण रूपों का बाहुल्य पाया जाता है। (b) कर्नाटक में पश्चिमी घाट महाराष्ट्र और केरल की तुलना में अधिक मानसूनी वर्षा प्राप्त करते हैं।

a) - The West Coast of India is a submerged coast.

- This means that the sea rose while land subsided.
- Due to this, there is an abrupt fall in the coastline from land to sea. There is no smooth gradient.

This leads to domination of erosional landforms:-

(A) Erosion by sea towards coast

→ The waves lack any gradient to deposit their sediments, so they end up cutting the coast forming landforms of erosion.

(B) Erosion by river towards sea

→ Instead of forming deltas, the rivers flow fast into the

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sea, thus cutting across the coast with their speed.
So in the western coast, ~~waves~~ caves, stumps, bays are very common.
The East Coast, on other hand is a coast of emergence i.e. the land rises against the sea. This leads to a smooth gradient, forming landforms of deposition. Such as:-

1. Long beaches. Eg.: Chandipur beach upto 5km long

2. Deltas of rivers -> KG Basin
3. Spits, sandbars and lagoons
4. Coastal lakes.

b) In Maharashtra and Kerala, the western ghats are high and steep, with very few passes.
- This leads to the monsoon winds causing orographic rainfall on their sudden collision

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with the hills.

- Since passes are few eg: Palghat pass and Balaghat pass, very few of these monsoon laden winds reach to the other side.
- This leads to a largely dry leeward side of the western ghats. Eg: Marathwada & Vidarba regions, while Mumbai is flooded.
- On the other hand, the western ghats are smoother and less high in Karnataka, with more passes. This allows them to cross over and cause rainfall throughout the State.

- In addition, Karnataka's few parts also come under influence of winter North East Monsoons

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6. With increasing urbanisation in India, the land usage pattern is undergoing major changes. Comment.

भारत में बढ़ते शहरीकरण के साथ ही भू-उपयोग प्रतिरूप में भी महत्वपूर्ण परिवर्तन हो रहे हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

- The recent records released by the government show that the land usage pattern in India is undergoing changes, with net sown area, wasteland area, area under pastures all declining.

(1) Decrease in net sown area
→ As more land is being acquired for public purpose under the land Acquisition Act, and more expansion in need for living space is in place, the causality is net sown area.
While the net sown area is declining, the cropping intensity is increasing leading to low yield per hectare.

(2) Decrease in wasteland area
→ Being taken up for constructing industries, townships, schools.

(3) Area under pastures & forests

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is also similarly declining due to needs of urbanization.

The positives :-

→ More productive use of wasteland
→ Shift in population demographic, with people shifting from rural to urban.
→ Increasing industry presence, in line with objectives of Make In India.

The negatives :-

→ The urbanisation is happening unplanned, and in a haphazard manner leading to urban sprawls instead of well developed cities
→ There is no proper sanitation & waste treatment facilities
→ As the urban population increases the amount of grain required to feed them increases too. Yet, with decreasing net sown area, the land gets exhausted

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soon. due to increased crop intensity
→ Excess pollution; and harm to soil → leading to ultimate desertification
→ Not reaching the forest cover target of around 30%.

Way ahead:

→ As urbanisation proliferates due to rise in aspirations, it's important to have a far reaching, all-expansive policy in place to determine how much land can be allowed to be used and for what purpose. A cap must be put on the amount of land use pattern that can be changed.
→ Development and urbanisation must be in line with Sustainable Development Goals.

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7. How is the coal bearing strata of India classified in geological terms? Why does coal remain the most important source of energy in India and what are its implications?

भूवैज्ञानिक शब्दावली में भारत के कोयला धारण करने वाले संस्तर को किस प्रकार वर्गीकृत किया जाता है? कोयला भारत में ऊर्जा का सबसे महत्वपूर्ण स्रोत क्यों बना हुआ है एवं इसके निहितार्थ क्या हैं?

- In India, all ~~three~~ four varieties of coal are found: Anthracite, Bituminous, Lignite & Peat.

Depending on their geological occurence, in India we have:-

(A) Anthracite is the oldest, found in pre cambrian rocks. It is found only in Jammu & Kashmir. Has high carbon content and low moisture.

(B) Gondwana Coal

- Here, Bituminous coal is found in areas of Jharkhand, Chhatisgarh. It is also old and high grade, but not as goods as anthracite

(C) Tertiary Coal

- Lignite / Peat. It is the youngest coal. Found in North East plateau, Tamil Nadu.

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Despite there being strides in the field of renewable energy, coal remains the most important source. Reasons are :-

① Low cost of operations
- Coal is easy to mine, cost of power is low as the licenses are existing, industry is already set up for many years leading to economy of scale.

② Uses of coal in other fields
- Coal when used in thermal power plants also gives secondary material which is used in other industries.
Eg: Coking coal

③ Use of coal in traditional stoves - societal attitudes & poverty is also a leading cause for the widespread use of coal.

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Implications -

① Pollution (Air Pollution)
- Thermal power plants release PM 2.5, PM10 and a number of noxious gases in addition to release of heavy, toxic metals.

② ~~Water~~ Thermal Pollution
- The hot water released by the power plants causes thermal pollution which kills fish.

③ Health issues due to pollution

④ Depletion of coal reserves: As happened post industrialisation in Europe

⑤ Mining related deaths of workers.

⑥ loss of competitive advantage to renewable clean sources of energy due to low cost of coal.

⑦ Effect on fulfillment of SDGs.

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8. Forest fires have become a regular feature during summers in the Western Himalayas. What are the causes behind this phenomenon? Critically examine the efforts made by authorities in countering this problem. Do periodic forest fires have any benefits associated with them?

पश्चिमी हिमालय में ग्रीष्म ऋतु के दौरान दावानल/वनाग्नि (फॉरेस्ट फायर) एक नियमित घटना बन गयी है। इस परिघटना के पीछे क्या कारण हैं? इस समस्या से निबटने के लिए प्राधिकरणों द्वारा किए गए प्रयासों का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। क्या समय-समय पर होने वाली दानावल की घटनाओं के कुछ लाभ भी हैं?

→ Forest fires are a natural phenomenon caused by intense heating and drying of forest land in summer time, leading to a small blaze which quickly spreads & decimates the forest. On other times, they may be caused anthropogenically by camp fires left behind, or by subsistence agriculture.

- The authorities generally treat forest fires as a scourge. Efforts are made to curb fires.
The population living around forests is moved out.

- Yet, as as has been argued by experts, the way officials deal with forest fires is a result

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of colonial experience, wherein forests contained important timber resources which had to be safeguarded.

- It has been argued that forest fires have many benefits:-

(1) Help in nourishing the soil and increasing its fertility by the ash.

(2) Kills all diseased plants, helps in preventing spread of deadly virus and bacteria.

(3) Natural way to maintain soil fertility and ecosystem.

Way ahead:

- A shift in the policy of forest department is required.
- Forest fires must be seen as a

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natural, self regulating phenomenon.

- local communities must be involved and traditional knowledge can be obtained in knowing how to deal with forest fires.

- While adequate prevention & protection efforts for the communities must be carried out, forest fires should not be treated as a negative thing.

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9. What are sunrise industries? Elaborate on the potential of these industries in India with a special focus on the food processing industry.

सनराइज उद्योग क्या है? खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग पर विशेष बल देते हुए भारत में इन उद्योगों की संभावना के संबंध में विस्तार से बताइए।

- Sunrise industries refer to industries that are new, not very common, and which have a huge potential to grow and boost economy.

- Potential :

① Electronics Industry
- It is commonly seen as a sunrise sector. Japan's growth due to strides in electronics can be replicated in India. The government's Zero Effect and Zero Defect ~~Other~~ scheme is to this end.

② other Fast Moving Consumer Goods industry. (FMCG)
- FMCG industries offer a huge growth potential.
- Food Processing industry is a major component of FCMG.

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- Food processing can refer to
  - Preliminary processing - Eg: Turning wheat to flour, which is already common in India.
  - The other kind of processing needs to be made popular for fast growth. Eg:
    - → Cut vegetables, packed & sealed
    - → Milk into good quality butter and cheese → Need for more Amul like industries.
    - → Jams, Preservatives & Pickles from Fruits
    - → Meat & poultry products
- These have a huge growth potential, which can be realised by the following steps: -

(1) Better cold storage facilities to ensure product does not perish

(2) Need to introduce standards for all products like uniform

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fat percentage in different varieties of cheese. This will give our products respect & advantage in export market

(3) Promoting contract farming for direct farm-to-fork models and better farm income.

(4) Better transport & logistics linkages → Boosting inland water transport.

(5) Giving credit and encouraging more cooperatives to diversify beyond the prevalent papad-pickle model & moving to other sectors.

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10. Scientific and technological advancements have removed the constraints posed by geographical factors which determine the location of industries. Comment. Giving examples, discuss the new factors that have come into play as a result.

वैज्ञानिक और प्रौद्योगिकीय प्रगति ने उद्योगों की अवस्थिति को निर्धारित करने वाले भौगोलिक कारकों द्वारा प्रस्तुत की जाने वाली बाधाओं को समाप्त कर दिया है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। इनके परिणाम स्वरूप उभरने वाले नए कारकों पर भी सोदाहरण चर्चा कीजिए।

- The location of industries depends on many factors. Such as -
  1) Availability of raw material
  2) labour
  3) Costs involved
  4) Appropriate weather conditions
  5) Government policies
  6) Availability of water.

- Earlier, industries were set up only where raw material was found, especially in case of weight losing industries.
  Eg: Tata steel plant in Bhilai
  Gets Iron & Coal from nearby, cheap labour and water from Subarnarekha

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Similarly, sometimes industries could not be set up at all due to lack of raw material.

Eg: Sweden has immense iron but no coal, so no industries.

- Yet, over time science has made significant advancements allowing for removal of constraints posed by geography.
- This can be best illustrated by example of Cotton industry.
  - ↳ Cotton does not lose weight, so it can be transported easily.
  - → Yet, for the spinning of yarn, humidity is a sine qua non.
  - → So earlier, Manchester, Osaka, Ahmedabad became spinning cotton textile centers due to availability of sufficient moisture

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which did not allow the threads to break.

- With science, artificial humidity can be generated which allows for yarn to be spun anywhere.

- Similarly, mushroom processing & pharmaceutical industries were traditionally based in hills due to cool cold climate.

But now,

due to ACs, temperature setters, better transport of raw materials, even these industries have proliferated throughout.

Therefore, science has removed many impediments posed by geography, although not all. Science still cannot replicate the advantage posed by mineral & oil rich areas.

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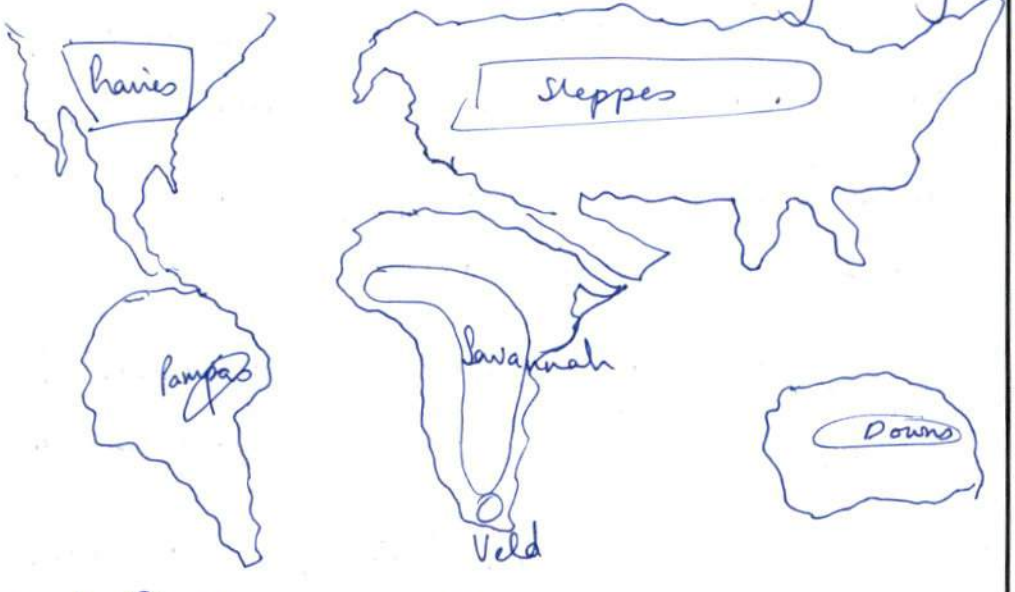
11. Give a brief distribution of major grasslands of the world. Discuss the reasons behind the temperate grasslands becoming the grain baskets of the world. Also compare their performance vis-a-vis tropical grasslands in this regard.

विश्व के प्रमुख घासस्थलों के वितरण का एक संक्षिप्त विवरण प्रस्तुत कीजिए। शीतोष्ण घासस्थलों के विश्व की खाद्यान्न टोकरी बनने के निहित कारणों की चर्चा कीजिए। इस संबंध में उष्णकटिबंधीय घासस्थलों की तुलना में उनके प्रदर्शन की चर्चा भी कीजिए।

- Grasslands are large expanses with tall grasses and few scattered trees. They do not receive a lot of rain fall, and climate is usually dry.



- Out of these, Prairies, ~~Steppes~~ Veld and Downs are Temperate Grasslands.
- Their climate allows them to be veived as grain baskets of the world, especially of wheat.

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The reasons are:-

1) Wheat requires cool, dry climate ~~for~~ for growing, which temperate grasslands have

2) low rainfall conducive for wheat

3) large areas of farms due to low population density in these interior regions allows for large scale mechanisation using tractors in 40-50 hectare large farms

4) Quality of grain is maintained giving the product respectability

5) Presence of conducive government policies

6) Top notch storage facilities in the form of silos

All these factors have contributed.

→ The tropical grasslands, on the

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

other hand, have not fared welle due to :-

1. Not temperate - not conducive for wheat
2. High population
3. Poor investment by government & private sector
4. High temperature causing outbreak of diseases in plants
5. Presence of browers and grazers which can damage the biodiversity

All these are responsible for seeming backward condition of tropical grasslands.

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12. Weather and climate information plays a significant role in increasing agricultural productivity as well as minimising crop losses. Comment. Also examine the ways in which forecasting system can be made more effective and inclusive.

मौसम और जलवायु संबंधी सूचना कृषि उत्पादकता को बढ़ाने एवं साथ ही साथ फसल के नुकसान को कम करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। इसके साथ ही उन उपायों का परीक्षण कीजिए जिससे पूर्वानुमान प्रणाली को और अधिक प्रभावी एवं समावेशी बनाया जा सकता है।

- Weather & Climate Information is important as:-

① It tells the farmer whether planting high water intensity crops in the upcoming season is a good decision

② Gives prior information on floods, cyclones which can damage livestock & crop.

③ Gives information of drought indicators

- It therefore affects -
  - what kind of crop to plant → eg: water stress tolerating millets or whether water intensive rice.
  - whether to depend on rains for irrigation of tubewell

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- All this ensures the kind of crop and its quantity, along with providing farmers enough time to prepare for any losses.

- The Indian Meteorological Department recently introduced a weather forecasting system that can give information 9 months prior to the happening of weather event. This is made for benefit of farmers.

→ Other iniatives to make it effective & inclusive :-

① Providing radios/phone based updates to even small & poor farmers who do not have access to latest technology

② Providing weather information to fishermen who can then avoid venturing into choppy seas.

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(3) Using LIDAR and Remote Sensing Data to map losses caused by drought & changes in soil profile.

(4) Educating the poor farmer on how to read the forecasting and understand it.

(5) Strengthening Krishi Vikas Kendras as one stop solutions for all information on use of weather updates in reducing losses

(6) Providing information on the appropriate soil parameters required for a particular crop.

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13. The Paris Climate agreement sets ambitious goals but does not go far enough in mechanisms to achieve the aims. Comment. Also highlight the challenges which a developing country like India faces to achieve the targets it has set for itself.

पेरिस जलवायु समझौता महत्वाकांक्षी लक्ष्यों को तो निर्धारित करता है किन्तु इन लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने के लिए पर्याप्त प्रावधानों की व्यवस्था नहीं करता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत जैसे विकासशील देश द्वारा अपने लिए निर्धारित किए गए लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने में सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

The Paris Climate Agreement is deemed as a game changer in environment conservation. It sets an ambitious target to prevent temperature rise above 1.5°C or in any case 2°C over pre-industrialisation levels.

The positives:-

- Consensus based agreement on importance of climate change & global warming.
- Participation of NGOs and civil society in Negotiations.

Yet, it has a few drawbacks:-

- It does not have any binding targets, unlike the Kyoto protocol.

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- It has no way to ensure that the country will adhere to its Individually Determined Targets (INDCs).

- It seems to have a top down approach - as was revealed when USA pulled out. It depends on contributions of governments without acting towards ensuring change in practices of citizens

Challenges faced by India -

- The developing countries do not even have a fraction of historical contribution to the rising temperatures, as the developed ones do. Yet, India too has targets. The challenges:

(1) Renewable energy
- India's ambitious Renewable Energy plan suffers from setbacks, most important of which is cost constraints. Renewable energy

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is not as cost effective yet.

(2) Balancing industrialisation with climate change

- This requires planning & adherence to norms, which becomes more difficult as industries scramble to compete

(3) Growing population

- Is bound to increase the carbon footprint, making it difficult to achive target

(4) Water sharing issues

- Inter states & inter community - bound to intensify as global warming accelerates

(5) Burden on agriculture

- With decreasing land available, low water & high risk of disease, the pressure on land will intensify.

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14. Describe the factors responsible for increase in marine pollution in the past few decades. What impact does marine pollution have on the ocean ecosystem? Discuss the measures taken by the international community to deal with it.

पिछले कुछ दशकों में समुद्री प्रदूषण में हुई वृद्धि के लिए जिम्मेदार कारकों का वर्णन कीजिए। महासागरीय पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र पर समुद्री प्रदूषण का क्या प्रभाव पड़ता है? इससे निपटने के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय समुदाय द्वारा किए गए उपायों की चर्चा कीजिए।

- Marine Pollution refers to addition of foreign, dangerous elements in a water body such as ocean or sea.
- Factors responsible:

(1) Industrial Discharge
- Toxic water which is sometimes hot affects marine population, leading to fish kill

(2) Human waste
- Is directly dumped into the ocean. Plastics float around and are ingested by animals & fish.
- Plastics in water are extremely slow to degrade due to lack of sunlight.

(3) Dead bodies in the ocean causes pollution.

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(4) Oil spills
- Causing slick & chocolate mouse formation which causes widespread damage to population

(5) Various other non point sources cause eutrophication and harmful algal blooms.

Impact:
- Marine population dies / gets sick.
- Water increases in turbidity.
- Excess stench in water
- Heavy metals in fish - transfer to humans through diet. Eg: Minamata Disease in Japan
- Aesthetic beauty of seaface is ruined.
- Difficulty in navigation

Measures taken:
- Treaties & agreement to put onus of responsibility in case of oil spills

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- Sustainable development goals
- ~~cal~~ Paris Agreement calling for preserving ocean's capacity as a natural sink.
- Declaration of pristine water areas as off limits. Eg: Ross Sea Marine National Park in Antarctica.
- Efforts on national level in form of legislation providing for treatment of affluent before discharging in ocean

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15. Discuss the environmental impact of electronic waste and the best practices for its handling in the context of the E-waste (Management) Rules, 2016. Also suggest some ways to incentivise consumers to utilise and dispose-off the e-waste properly.

इलेक्ट्रॉनिक अपशिष्ट के पर्यावरणीय प्रभावों एवं ई-अपशिष्ट (प्रबंधन) नियम, 2016 के संदर्भ में इसके निष्पादन के लिए सर्वोत्तम तरीकों पर चर्चा कीजिए। ई-अपशिष्ट के उचित उपयोग और निपटान के लिए उपभोक्ताओं को प्रोत्साहन प्रदान करने हेतु कुछ उपाय भी सुझाइए।

- Impact of e-waste, that is waste from old computers, mobiles, silicon chips is not felt immediately but is equally harmful.

- Impact:-
  1. Release of harmful dioxins & furans
  2. Release of heavy metals in air which are potentially carcinogenic
  3. Occupation of large space when not utilised properly, leading to wastage.

E waste management Rules :-
- The rules give a wide definition of e waste, including CFLs.
- Easy procedure for

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Collection → Segregation →
Dismantling → Recycling.

- Responsibility on consumers & collectors to recycle and dispose the waste appropriately.
- The ~~simplifo~~ rules provide for penalty in case of violation as well.

However, like all government reforms, its effectiveness depends on the willingness of consumers to adopt them.

Way to incentivise :-

① Providing consumer with a manual of disposing the gadget at the type of purchase itself

② Spreading awareness of the e-waste collection points

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(3) Regulating scrap dealers

(4) Regulating the second hand gadget market

(5) Spreading campaigns on harmful effects of e-waste

(6) Punishing violaters with penalty under rules to deter others

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16. An emissions-reduction approach to fighting global warming is not enough. Alternative solutions involving climate engineering might have to be deployed sooner than we think. Defining climate engineering, critically examine the statement.

ग्लोबल वार्मिंग से निपटने के लिए केवल उत्सर्जन-न्यूनीकरण उपागम (दृष्टिकोण) पर्याप्त नहीं है। संभवत: हमें अनुमानित समय से पूर्व ही,क्लाइमेट इंजीनियरिंग को सम्मिलित करने वाले वैकल्पिक समाधान को अपनाने की आवश्यकता पड़ सकती है। क्लाइमेट इंजीनियरिंग को परिभाषित करते हुए, इस कथन का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

- Emissions Reductions can only go a certain extent in reducing climate change.
- Many studies are unequivocal that capping temperate rise @ 2°C is an almost impossible goal with present methods.
- Climate Engineering can be used. It is a process of using artificial means to generate effects caused by natural processes.

Positives of Climate Engineering

① Inducing rainfall by spraying silver iodide on clouds

- Practiced by China for long, it

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saves agriculture from vagaries of drought

(2) Spraying aerosols in the air that have a cooling effect, such as ammonia.
- This seeks to replicate the cooling effect of volcanoes.

(3) Spraying water from helicopters as rain

(4) Using large mirrors to reflect sunlight.

Negatives / Threats of Climate Engineering

(1) No guarantee on efficacy

(2) No information if the process of cooling once started, can be stopped. If not, we might be responsible for another ice age.

(3) Ethical concerns of interfering

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with nature.

(4) High cost of operations making process impractical.

Way ahead:

- Limited climate engeering can be done to effectively reduce global warming.
- Yet, it may only be done after enough R n D and only upon being sure of the impacts of the process.
- Alternate technologies which are safe need to be developed.

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17. Discuss how drought is more of a man-made disaster than a mere deficiency of rainfall. Elaborate on the consequences of desertification that drought prone regions face. Also, bring out the preventive steps to be taken in light of targets to curb desertification as mentioned under the SDGs.

चर्चा कीजिए कि किस प्रकार सूखा केवल वर्षा की कमी से पैदा आपदा न हो कर मुख्य रूप से एक मानव-निर्मित आपदा है। सूखा प्रवण क्षेत्रों द्वारा सामना किए जाने वाले मरुस्थलीकरण के परिणामों को विस्तार से बताइए। साथ ही, मरुस्थलीकरण पर अंकुश लगाने के लिए SDGs के अंतर्गत उल्लिखित लक्ष्यों के प्रकाश में उठाए जाने वाले निवारक कदमों को स्पष्ट कीजिए।

- Drought is not always caused due to poor rainfall/ soil moisture.
- Many a times, it is the consequence of poor soil management and poor water management.

① Improper water division; allowing rainwater runoff are responsible for why the same region floods during monsoon & is dry in summer

② Poor cropping practices
- Sowing water intensive crops due to economic benefits, even when the soil & climate do not support it.

Eg:- Paddy cultivation in semi arid Punjab.

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- Such improper soil & water management is the reason behind majority of droughts.
↓
- This very often leads to desertification, marked by a gradual degradation of soil when it turns from fertile to semi arid and arid.

Consequences of desertification

→ out migration
→ Reduction of once fertile deltas into marshes/swamps
→ Economic instability
→ Nutrition deficit due to lack of foodgrain
→ Excess erosion & dust storms
→ Low rainfall as water drops do not coalesce.

Desertification of the Mesopotamia tigris - Euphrates valley caused the decline of Babylonian civilization,

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This same desertification has extended now to as far wide as India.

Preventive Steps :

(1) Adherance to the Convention against Desertification [the most popularly signed treaty]

(2) Sensible water use

(3) Waste water reuse & recycling

(4) Better agricultural practices, cropping as per soil type and not as per ~~agricultural~~ economic benefits

(5) Better soil management. Eg: The recent issue of soil health cards

(6) Reducing fertiliser subsidy & consequent use which degrades soil & causes alkanization

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18. India's first National Disaster Management Plan may fulfill the legal requirement of having a plan but it may not be very effective in achieving its objective of building resilience. Critically analyse.

भारत की प्रथम राष्ट्रीय आपदा प्रबंधन योजना, भले ही एक योजना होने की विधिक आवश्यकता को पूर्ण कर सकती है किन्तु यह प्रत्यास्थता निर्माण करने के अपने उद्देश्य को प्राप्त करने में अधिक प्रभावी नहीं हो सकती। आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

- The ~~National~~ Disaster Management Act mandates the release of a Disaster Management Plan.
- The government released the Plan in May 2016.

The Positives :-

- The plan is expansive, and covers all disasters including nuclear & industrial accidents.
- It is in line with the Sendai Action Framework, revolving around the need for resilience and risk management rather than relief & rehabilitation as the focus.
- It gives a list of structural

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reforms required to be made to buildings and other engineering requirements, along with drills & information generation to build resilience.

The Drawbacks:

- Despite its tall objectives & comprehensive provisions, it is feared that the plan will remain just on paper.

- There are no timelines to achieve risk building, further there is no enforcement mechanism

- It continues the approach of segmenting & separating disaster management of different disasters with different authorities, instead of promoting a holistic approach.

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Way forward :-

1. Need to bring in enforcement mechanism
2. Social audit of the progress made can be done.
3. Need to improve coordination between different agencies for a holistic approach at disaster resilience building.
4. Need for a bottom up approach involving local community

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19. A better prepared community is key to effective disaster risk reduction. Citing specific examples, examine the importance of the role of local government and community in dealing with disasters.

प्रभावी आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण के लिए एक बेहतर रूप से तैयार समुदाय महत्वपूर्ण है। विशिष्ट उदाहरण देते हुए आपदाओं से निपटने में स्थानीय सरकार एवं समुदाय की भूमिका के महत्व का परीक्षण कीजिए।

- When a ~~first~~ disaster strikes, the first ones to provide support are
  - → The community
  - → local police
  - → local tehsildar/ Patwari
- The National Disaster Response Force, the army and directions from top functionaries only come at a later stage.
- Therefore, the most important way to prevent a hazard from turning into a disaster is by building the capacity of the community to respond to the risk.
- The following steps should be taken
  1. Involving the community in

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preparation of the district plan and local plan.

(2) Training the policemen of lower levels.

(3) Training the community through appropriate campaigns

(4) Having designated local leaders who will guide the community in time of ~~conflict~~ disaster when it strikes and relaying information to the rest of the community

Examples:

- In Maharashtra, many a times certain pockets have zero causalty in floods while the neighboring districts have hundreds dead.
This is because of better planning & preparation of the

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local community in dealing with the disaster when it strikes.

- The same is the reason why even though Japan faces multiple earthquakes, hardly anyone dies.
  This is because of internalisation of building norms & evacuation procedures.

Way ahead:

- Such global best practices must be imbibed in the Indian experience to prepare the community better & save lives

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20. What is the role of NDRF in managing disasters in the country? Highlighting the challenges that NDRF has been facing, discuss why it is still the armed forces which end up being the most visible force at hand during disasters.

देश में आपदाओं के प्रबंधन में NDRF की क्या भूमिका है? NDRF द्वारा सामना की जाती रही चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि आपदाओं के दौरान केवल सशस्त्र बल ही क्यों अभी भी सहज और सर्वाधिक उपलब्ध बल के रूप में दृष्टिगोचर होते हैं।

- The National Disaster Response Force is the designated authority under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 in dealing with disasters.

Its role is:

- Evacuation, search & rescue operations.
- Providing specialist response to the disaster
- Undertaking workshops and awareness generation campaigns.

- NDRF has saved many lives in its operations. Yet, it is plagued by many problems

(1) Delayed directions &

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deployment of troops in affected areas

(2) Poor managerial structure leading to lack of co-ordination

(3) Lack of motivation to join due to poor pay

(4) Sub standard training.

(5) Lack of airforce which is most vital in search and rescue operations.

(6) No localised State Disaster Response Force

These, among others are the reasons the army has to invariably step in.

↳ (1) The army is always deployed nearby to towns & villages.

(2) Easier to mobilise and quicker to Act

(3) Presence of army fills in the lacuna caused by the lack of State Disaster

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Response Force

(4) Presence of helicopters & pilots which are most vital for Search operations.

Way ahead :

- The States must constitute their own disaster response forces to cut down the burden on army
- The NDRF & SDRF should be given more powers.
- Funding must be increased,
- Air wing must be provided to these forces to ease the burden on the army.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1023)

Name of Candidate	Saumya Sharma		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	English	Registration Number	95371
Center	Old Rajinder Nagar	Date	5 Aug 2017

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

Signature of Examiner

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH.
3. All questions are compulsory.
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. The evolution of temple-building in India can be attributed to factors such as changing form of worship, improvement in the skills of the craftsmen and the increase in funding provided by kings and rich merchants. Examine.

India has a rich and varied history of temple building. Broadly, temple building depended upon:-
- the funding available
- the needs of the society
- the skill of the labourer.

Changing forms of worship

- From the early Vedic ages, temples are usually not found as the society was pastoral and on the move.
- With the advent of the Buddhism, we find numerous examples of bare, rock cut cave chaityas and viharas. Eg: Lomus Rishi Cave, Karle Chaitya
- over time, as the form of worship changed from worship of the elements to Brahmanical worship of a pantheon of gods, numerous temples came up.

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· With the increase in number of deities being worshipped, the panchyatana form of temples came up.

· In line with the prevalent social norms, temples with erotic carvings came up. Eg: Lakariani temple, Khajuraho temple.

So, As the form of worship changed from that of the elements to Yakshis to Buddhism to Brahmanism, temples accomodated the faith of the followers

→ Improvement in the skills

· The ancient craftsmen initially took to chiselling away at rock to produce imposing rock cut temples, Eg: Kailasa temple @ Ellora.

· There was also a proliferation of wood based temples, none of which have survived.

· With time, the craftsman learned the art of making structural

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temples, which led to imposing structural temples of Dravida style.

- It also led to proliferation of ~~Vihara and~~ Nagara, Vesara, & Dravida style

→ Increase in funding provided:

- As kings sought to legitimise their position, they took to supporting temple building.
- As funding increased, more elaborate form of temples could now be made. This was most sharply observed in the temples of Gupta period, and South India
- Even Merchants funded temple building. Eg: Dilwara temples of Mount Abu.

Therefore, all three factors contributed to the shifting trends in temple building in India.

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2. Metal casting in India appears to be one of the oldest sculptural traditions. Discuss the significance of cire-perduor or "lost wax" technique in the sculptural tradition of India with examples from different regions.

· India's rich heritage gives importance to metal sculptures.

· The lost wax technique is one of the oldest techniques, dating from as far as the Indus Valley civilisation.

· In this technique, a clay ~~fo~~ coating is made over a wax figurine. Once the clay is baked, a hole is made to drain out the wax, which is then filled with metal.

· The mother goddess from Harappa is made using the lost wax technique.

· Even after the end of the Indus Valley Civilisation, the lost wax technique did

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not disappear.

- The southern sculptures of the Chola period used this technique very frequently.
  - ↳ The famous Tanjore sculpture of Shiva in Tandava is perhaps one of the most famous of all.

- In north India, this technique was used to make metal sculptures of various Brahmanical gods.

- In addition to making religious craft, this technique was also used to make different metal objects

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of daily use, such as Bells, Toys, utensils.

· Even in the 21st century, the lost wax technique survives with many marginalised communities eking out their living by practising this art.

Therefore, metal casting is a very significant art form in the history of India.

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3. India's middle ages brought about a very rich tradition of devotional literature of remarkable merit which dispels the assumption of a dark period of India's history. Elucidate.

- The middle ages world over were associated with dark times i.e. a time of immense superstitions, dogmas and perverse notions surrounding every aspect of life.
- While in India the picture was more or less true with the degradation of Hinduism into a rigid faith with untouchability being rife, it still led to a rich tradition of devotional literature being produced that is read to this date.

· Bhakti movement

- The advent of the Bhakti movement to counter Hinduism's rigidity produced one of the most remarkable

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literature, such as

- The ~~Nayanira Divyapradhanam~~ Nayanira Divyaprabandham, the compilation of Alvar Saints
- The Nayanar's Tevaram, compilation of songs for Lord Shiva
- Krishnadeva Raya's Amuktamalyadam celebrating the wedding of Lord Vishnu with Andal.

- The Bhakti movement was also expressed by –
  - Mirabai, who wrote songs in intense devotion of Lord Krishna
  - Kabir, whose Kabir Panth is still read.

- It also saw proliferation of new faiths, such as

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Sikhism. The compilation of Guru Granth Sahib which combined and reflected the syncretic ethos of that time was a high point.

- Additionally, the mughal emperors were big patrons of literature and art. Many secular works such as autobiographies, biographies were written.
- ~~While~~ This also gave an impetus to Sufism.

This rich tradition from India's middle ages was inclusive, saw equality of all humans, and is read to this date. This, therefore, dispels the myth of middle ages being a dark period.

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4. The outbreak of World War II in 1939 divided the nationalists over the next course of action in the freedom struggle. Elaborate. In this context, also examine the factors that led to INC launching the Quit India Movement.

- When the World War II broke out, the Indian nationalists were getting used to the Carrot and Stick Policy of the British.
  - → The 1935 Act was a disappointment
  - → The Round Table Conferences did not yield result
  - → The Call for Poorna Swaraj at the Lahore session was disregarded by the British.
- In this context, WW II's outbreak created divisions in the Congress party.
  - → The first group wanted to support the British out of duty of being British subjects
  - → The second group was

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against joining the war, but wanted to still help the British as the war was against fascism. Eg: Nehru

↳ The third group was totally against joining the war. It wanted to continue the fight for independence and wanted to attack the British at its weakest. Eg: Bose.

However, it was decided to support British in the WW II for the following reasons:-

(1) Nationalists did not want to be seen as supporting Fascism

(2) The threat of being attacked by Japan loomed large

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(3) The British cabinet assured Indians of self government post the war.

Yet, this was in vain as the British did not wish to leave India.

→ This led to Gandhi's call for the Quit India movement, which gave an ultimatum to the British to leave India.

→ However, the British government caught wind of this, the movement was brutally suppressed even before starting. All leaders were sent to the prison & released only years later

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5. How did the Indian industrialists contribute to the freedom struggle? Did the emergence of the socialistic trend during the later period of the struggle deter them from supporting the freedom struggle? Analyze.

· The Indian industrialists were a major force in the independence struggle. The first few leaders of the Indian National Congress were landed zamindars or industrialists.

· Their major concern was:
① The discrimination of Indian goods vis-a-vis British goods
② loss of competitive advantage for Indian goods

· The drain theory propounded by Dadabhai Naoroji & supported by RC Dutt gave credence to the economic nature of the British Rule in India,
Post which many petitions

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were made to the British Government.

· Yet,
↳ Post WW I, the British industries suffered and the Indian industries got a boost

· The industrialists became more vocal proponents of freedom

· In addition,
↳ The Bombay Plan was released by the Industrialists
↳ FICCI was started
↳ Funding was provided to political parties
↳ Economic Advice was provided.

· While the passing of the labour laws in 1920s was seen by the industrialists to be an effort by British

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Government to cut down competitiveness of Indian industry, by reducing working hours and reducing productivity of Indian labour, it cannot be said that the rise of socialism deterred industrialists

- They continued to be a big supporter of independence
- They reconciled the goals of socialism and their business by releasing the Bombay Plan and asking for government protectionism

This is proved by the fact that post independence, the industrialists contributed whole heartedly to nation building.

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6. The social-religious reform movements of the 19th and 20th century in British India not only tried to purge the Indian society of various social evils but also prepared the ground for the Indian freedom struggle. Analyze.

· The socio-religious reform movements had a major role to play in India's freedom struggle.

(A) Freeing the society of social evils

· Hinduism had degenerated itself. The reformers used the Vedas and philosophy of Vedanta to reveal the illogicality of prevailing customs

· Ram Mohan Ray's struggles ensured the outlawing of Sati.

· Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar supported widow remarriage.

· BM Malabari's efforts led to Age of Consent Act to curb child marriage.

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- Gopal Gokhale, Jyotiba & Savitri Phule contributed to ~~outlawing~~ women's education
- The work of Dayanand Saraswati and Arya Samaj worked towards achieving an egalitarian society
- Parthna Sabha, Justice Party all worked towards ending social inequalities.

(B) Preparing the ground for freedom struggle

- The aforementioned activities, in addition to making the society free from evils, also awakened feelings of nationalism
- In the wake of ~~natio~~ British

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rule, the reformers used newspapers to publish a wide variety of articles which generated feelings of social and geographical unity in the populace that was hitherto missing.

- This was invaluable as it made the work of later nationalists easier.

A class of enlightened Indians believing in rationality and liberty helped the freedom movement achieve independence

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7. The dawn of 19th century was marked by large scale expansion of the British empire into India, especially during the governorship of Wellesley. Elaborate.

- In the 19th century, the following changes took place in Britain
  - → Technological revolution
  - → Industrial revolution
  - → An increasing population with increased need for foodgrain and consumer goods.

- In India, British found the ideal set of conditions to feed its economy. Instead of industrial revolution, commercial revolution took place in India through
  - → Duties on Indian exports
  - → India became a raw material supplier
  - → Agriculture food crops replaced by cash crops.

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- To bolster its aims, the British trading co. sought to expand political powers, made available to it by the Battle of Buxar wherein it got Diwani rights.
- The British had certain territories under direct control. Yet, this did not satisfy the British.

- Under Wellesley, the British adopted the policy of Subsidiary alliance wherein
  - → Princely states had to station British troops and British resident
  - → The British could annex anytime on the ground of mismanagement, as was done in Awadh.

- Subsidiary alliance led to loss of external sovereignty and erosion

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of internal sovereignty for the states.

- British also resorted to the Doctrine of lapse under Dalhousie, wherein a state could be annexed if the ruler died without a heir. Eg: Satara

- These two policies, along with the policy of ring fence led to a large area coming under direct or indirect British control.

- This large scale expansion, in turn, helped the British fulfil its aims in India.

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8. United States entered the Vietnam war incrementally, in a series of steps between 1950 and 1965. Elucidate. Also analyse the reasons for America's failure in the war.

- The entry of US into Vietnam leading to the war was a culmination of incremental steps, based around cold War.
- Ho Chin Minh's Vietminh succeded in declaring independence from France in 1945.
  Ho Chi Minh had active support of the USSR in guerrila warfare.
- The US under Eisenhower believed and feared in the theory of Domino Effect. It was felt that after North Korea; China Vietnam too would become a part of USSR sphere of communism.
- To prevent this, US entered Vietnam and declared war against Vietminh,

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which US thought was based in North Vietnam.

The broad steps were:-

1. Safe villages → moving some citizens into safe spaces
2. Indiscriminate bombing of North Vietnam, use of chemical agents such as Napalm Jelly.
3. Continued bombing of Ho Chi Minh Trail and gradual reduction of troops.

However, the intervention of ~~USSR~~ US to safeguard capitalism in Vietnam failed. Reasons being:

1. Public support for Ho Chi Minh in Vietnam in face of brutal US repression strengthened Vietnamese Communism.

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(2) Guerrila Warfare & Ho Chi Minh trail which US could not completely destroy

(3) Continued support of USSR & China for Ho Chi Minh

(4) Build up of public opinion against the War in US
↳ People thought the war was unnecessary and a waste of money.
↳ The iconic image of the young girl running from Napalm Jelly haunted the minds of many.

All this led to the calling off of the war.

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9. Even though there is much that is wrong with the European Union (EU), its achievements can not be discounted either. Discuss.

- The European Union was the result of the Maastritch Treaty in 1993. It is a political and economic union of 28 member countries.

Criticisms :

① That the EU has often failed to avert crisis.
Eg: Greece bailout was an effect of lenient EU policies

② That in a world of protectionism, EU has no place.

③ That it should remain a mere economic union and not a political union as:
- Each country should decide its own policies with

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respect to issues like migrants, social security.

- The common standards set by the European ~~Charter~~ Convention of Human Rights are rarely followed and are applied unevenly by members.

(4) That Brexit spells the end of EU, and shows a lack of confidence in its policies.

Yet, not all is dry & sundry with EU. It has had many achievements too :-

(1) Schengen visa for some EU countries has ensured more tourism revenues

(2) Better utilisation of inland waterways & increased trade.
Eg. Rotterdam was the busiest port in the world a few years ago.

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(3) Role of EU in global policies..
↳ EU is known for progressive policies in fields of human rights and sustainable development
↳ It is a world leader in many areas, eg: Paris Climate Deal

(4) The small states of Europe benefit in many ways socially, politically & economically from EU and it adds to their stability.

(5) Even within the EU, individual states are provided enough leeway to take own decisions & maintain political sovereignty.

Therefore, the one off Brexit cannot be taken to discount achievements of EU, which has worked hard to promote European stability.

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10. Despite being a failure, 1848 revolutions remain a watershed event in European History. Elaborate.

- The Revolutions of 1848 in Europe were a series of revolts against the ruling nobility in many parts of Europe.
- Held in the backdrop of the French Revolution, the revolutions signified a revolt of the common man from the clutches of the nobility.
- The common man was oppressed, had to pay the most taxes. The desire was to have democracy and equality.
- The revolutions affected Germany, Italy, Austria-Hungary. France too was affected

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as it was dealing with post French revolution instability.

- Yet, the aspirations of the revolting citizens were crushed and repressed with brute force.
- Despite this, the revolutions remain a watershed event in the history of Europe
  (1) while they brought little political change, with monarchy remaining predominant and only a few rights being given, the revolutions brought many socio-economic changes.
  (2) The hitherto oppressed class now saw itself as being

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important.

(3) The ruling nobility realised their precarious position that depended upon the support of the people.

It took steps to lessen the burden on peasants, and tried to work for their welfare.

(4) They set the stage for future democratic governments in Europe.

Therefore, although a failure the wars were succesful in that they led to a socio-political awakening of the masses.

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11. The events that led to the American Revolution had causes rooted in the social, economic, political and ideological context of that time. Elaborate. Also, bring out the influence that the American Revolution had on the French Revolution.

- After the age of discovery, many Europeans migrated to USA and set up their colonies there. Yet, increasing influence of Britain in various spheres led to the revolution.

(A) Economic Causes:-

- The British Govt. was very interfering, and imposed a number of taxes on American colonies.
- The immediate trigger of the revolution was the Boston Tea Party wherein crates of tea with high taxation were thrown into the Atlantic Ocean.

- Like / Bad

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(B) Political Causes -

- The Boston Tea Party incident was followed by severe repression.
- The Americans were not represented in the British Parliament. The slogan was - no taxation without representation.
- The British Govt prohibited the expansion of American settlements to safeguard Native American territories. - This was despised.

(C) Social Context -

- Most of the settlers of American had left Europe to escape its rigid Catholic religion & other repressive policies.
- They rejected the control of the perpetrators they escaped from.

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(D) Ideological Content

- Inspired by writings of Montesquieu Rosseau
- Ideas of liberty, equality, fraternity.

The American Revolution culminated with the American Constitution, and the establishment of the first republic

Effect of American Revolution on the French Revolution :-

After seeing the courage of Americans & establishment of the first republic, french citizens were motivated to give effect to writings of French Philosophers and set a democratic republic for themselves.

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12. In the context of Punjab crisis it can be argued that language, religion and regionalism combined into a potentially explosive situation which political elites struggled to contain. Examine.

- In the aftermath of independence, the government went back on its pre-independence promise of linguistic states.
- The government did not want the bloodshed of Partition to repeat itself. Yet, linguistic states had to be formed.
- In the case of Punjab, the problem was complex
  ↳ Punjabi language coexisted with Sikh religion, and Regionalism was strong.
- The movement for Khalistan gained ground. Khalistan was to be an independent nation comprising of Punjabi

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Subas, to be governed as per Akal Panth.

- To control the situation, the government carved out Punjab and separated Hindi speaking Haryana and Himachal Pradesh from it.
- Yet, this did not control the desire to have Khalistan as it was based on religion and not language.
- The problem of Khalistan was more complex due to
  - → Sikhs felt some Hindus were better off and took a large share of opportunities
  - → The Sikh diaspora in US, Canada, UK, Australia was active in the demand and provided funding for Khalistanis.

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- The political class failed to gague the enomity of the situation.
- Operation Blue Star led to discreation of a Sikh Holy Place, the Golden temple which led to a period of rioting and President's rule being imposed in the state.
- This unfortunately culminated with the assassination of our ex-PM.
- Even now, it cannot be said that the government has fully controlled the situation.
  ↳ The drug menace, unemployment, poor education facilities in Punjab are keeping the movement alive.

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13. What were the factors that led to the declaration of Emergency in 1975? Why is it considered as the dark period of Indian democracy? In this context, discuss the response to the imposition of emergency among the masses, media and political class.

- In the 1970s, Raj Narain filed a case in Allahabad High Court against India Gandhi's election.
- The Court, in its judgment, declared the election of India Gandhi as invalid, and disqualified her.
- This was responded to by the imposition of National Emergency, on account of 'internal disturbance' under Art 352. An emergency was already in place on account of 'external aggression' courtesy Indo-Pak war

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• Factors why emergency is called a 'dark period'

↳ A mini constitution was enacted (42nd Amendment) which virtually changed the entire constitutional scheme.

↳ • Took away power of judicial review

• Made DPSP trump Fundamental Rights.

→ Immense political repression

→ Habeas Corpus not in place, so many people went missing

→ Forced sterilisations

→ Clamping down and severe repressal of media.

Responses to emergency

• Masses

- The masses proved the mettle of democracy by voting out

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the government and bringing in a new government.

- They took to protests.

- Media
  - It refused to be cowered down.
  - It focused, highlighted & revealed the excesses being committed ~~even~~ after the emergency was over
  - To this date, the media ensures public memory does not fade.

- Political Class
  - The Janata Party government that was elected in 1977 passed the 44th Constitutional Amendment Act which restored the constitution to its original position.

Therefore, even though emergency was a dark period, democracy won.

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14. The role of women since independence has not been confined to issues of women alone, rather they have played an important role in the issues related to peasants, tribals, farmers, trade unions and environment. Discuss.

. In pre independence India, while some women like Sarojini Naidu & Annie Besant were involved with issues of national importance, most women's role was confined to issues that affected women.

. Post independence, women have played a lead role in almost every sphere of democratic politics and civil society involved-

→ Peasants & Farmers

. The Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan of Aruna Roy, an ex - IAS officer is foremost in safeguarding peasant rights & working for RTI.

. Role of Women in Self Help

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Group formation cannot be highlighted enough. Ela Singh played a leading role.

→ Tribals

- The recent formation of Jaglag (Jagdalpur Legal Aid Group) by a group of women lawyers is working painstakingly to safeguard tribal rights in naxal infested Chhatisgarh.
- Irom Sharmila's role in ~~Ind~~ protecting Manipur's tribals from AFSPA.

→ Environment

- Medha Patkar's relentless efforts to save the villagers, farmers and community at large from adverse impacts of large dams.
- Women spearheading

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environment reforms as IAS Officers, Forest Range Officers, Professors & Politicians.

→ Trade Unions

- Many women lead trade unions, often forming women's wings in these.

Apart from civil society, women are moving ahead in the field of banking (Arundhati Bhattacharya, Chanda Kochhar), industry (PepsiCo Indra Nooyi), law (Indira Jaisingh), medicine and politics to work for issues that affect the society at large, and not only the women.

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15. Critically examine the point of view that cultural diversity in India has been a hindrance to the process of nation building.

India has a rich diversity of cultures, perhaps unmatched by any other country. Yet, it is being said that it is acting as a hindrance in formation of a unified India

Arguments in favour of cultural diversity acting as an impediment

(1) Most nations which are close knit and peaceful have a common language/religion. Eg: Poland; France; Malaysia

(2) The cultural diversity encourages regional chauvinism

(3) It gives rise to son of the soil theory

(4) It leads to fears of regional movements turning

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violent. Eg: Khalistan, Nagalim.

Arguments against:

(1) India has survived the test of time.

(2) The regional cultures have coexisted and co-developed, leading to formation of syncretic Indian culture

(3) It promotes nationbuilding by making people more tolerant and open to different view points.

(4) It adds to India's soft power and boosts the confidence of Indians about their roots.

To conclude,

- It cannot be said as a matter of fact That

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cultural diversity is a hindrance in nation building.

- On the contrary, India has survived 70 years of being a democracy despite its dissimilar cultural traditions & numerous languages.

- A few unfortunate regional chauvinism ~~reg~~ incidents cannot be used to colour the entire Indian democracy experience.

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16. Equality of opportunity requires not only open competition for advantaged positions but also fair access to qualifications required for those positions. Discuss in the Indian context.

- Equality of opportunity is guaranteed by our constitution through Articles 14, 15, 16.
- For substantive equality to exist over and above formal equality, it is necessary that
  (A) People have the means to achieve requisite educational qualifications
  ↳ Through reservations in educational institutes of higher level
  → Through Economically Weaker Section reservation under RTI in schools
  → Through state scholarships for weaker sections

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And,

(B) That people have the means to use these qualifications for advantaged positions

→ In the public sector, this is done through:

- Reservation in competitive exams with relaxed standards
- Reservation in promotions
- Reservation in other appointments

→ In the private sector, this is achieved by:

- The constitution which ensures non-discrimination, equality and abolition of untouchability.

When these two are achieved,

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only then true equality is achieved, as one cannot fully achieve its goals without the other.

- Reservations are therefore, a means of placing unequals equal. It is form of affirmative action, which is available not only for disadvantaged castes, but also for economically & socially backward classes to ensure substantive equality.

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17. Portrayal of stereotypical sensational images of women not only reduces their identity to a mere object of desire but also reinforces the patriarchal structure of the society. Discuss with examples.

- A stereotype refers to assumed characteristics painting an entire group with the same brush.
- Irrespective of their truth/falsity, stereotypes are inherently harmful as they prevent a member of a social group from discarding the negative identities associated with the group.
- Stereotypes against women constantly seek to reinforce patriarchy. They propagate the view that
  - ↳ women are incapable
  - ↳ women need men to protect them & take decisions
  - ↳ women are best suited

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for household activities.

Examples of stereotypes abound. To cite a few;

(1) That women are meant to look beautiful for men boosts the make up industry, and leads to young girls focusing too much on their looks, ignoring their studies which clears the field for a lifetime of dependance

(2) That women need to marry and run a household discourages many women from even appearing for tough jobs, such as the IAS

(3) That women are bad drivers discourages women from driving,

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lest they should drive badly.

(4) The many jokes on wives on social media downplay the economic worth of a woman's efforts, and bring them to apathy.

(5) The widespread objectification of women leads to anxiety, self esteem & health disorders such as anorexia.

(6) Stereotypes ensure girls are continued to be treated as a burden, their education neglected, and child marriage rampant.

Yet, despite the odds being against them, women have successfully broke free from many stereotypes and excelled in all fields - Sports, Commerce, Medicine, law.

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18. Explain the concept of planned obsolescence with examples and discuss its impact for an economy. In this context, comment on Indian society's move towards throwaway culture.

- Obsolescence refers to the becoming obsolete of a thing
- Planned obsolescence refers to a business strategy wherein industrialists design & plan a product in a way that it becomes obsolete after a while and the customer has to purchase a new one.
- The reason for this is that with better technological advances, the shelf life of products increased and manufacturers found this way to keep revenues going.
- Examples
  ↳ Computer softwares & apps which have to be updated

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→ Poor quality of clothes which go bad in about a year

→ Poor quality of wires, cards, charging cables.

⟹ Impact on an Economy

① May lead to wastage of both resources and money

② May lead to stagnation in innovation as the same product is produced over and over without looking for new ways to retain consumer base

③ Leads to consumerism.

④ Huge amount of waste generation

⟹ Consumerism & Move towards throwaway culture →

· With planned obsolescence, consumerism takes centre stage

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where consumers buy a product and throw it as soon as it loses value.

This refers to 'throw away' culture.

Eg: ① Shift to disposable diapers & sanitary pads

② PET bottles which cannot be recycled

③ Damaged electrical equipment

Throwaway culture is also marked by a desire to have the best of a product, so a consumer buys the latest version even if it has no utility.

Due to problems of wastage & waste generation, it is important to have a relook and move towards long lasting, sustainable practices

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19. Employment is a vital factor in empowerment of persons with disabilities. Analyse. Enumerate the steps taken by the government to increase employment of persons with disabilities.

- The biggest factor for the disempowerment of persons with disabilities remains their dependence on others. This dependence can be in the form of financial assistance, to help with filing bills & so on.

- In this context, employment of persons with disabilities is essential for their employment

① Employment gives self confidence as they now see themselves an an asset for society

② It makes them independent, especially financially.

③ Their widespread presence in economy ensures that

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enabling features are introduced in infrastructure such as ramps, mics & speakers, text to speech technology.

(4) This gives them functional ability, and also brings more employees into the economy.

Steps taken by government:

(1) The 1995 PWD Act provided for 3% reservation for persons with disabilities across government jobs, which has now been increased to 4% as per the 2016 Act.

(2) Sugamya Bharat Abhiyaan to change attitudes and provide help to set up own

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self employment units.

(3) Adip Yojana

- To provide accessibility providing Aids to PWDs, to help them move around

(4) Increasing access

↳ By making 50% of railway stations, 50% of government buildings accessible.

→ By making government websites screen-reader accessible

(5) Accessible Banking

All these steps will ensure the increased employability & mobility of PWDs, which will enhance their independence & status.

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20. While many see globalisation as synonymous with westernisation, evidence suggests that the process of globalisation has not been a one way street. Comment.

- It would be factually incorrect to associate globalisation with westernisation.
- As the name suggests, globalisation refers to a global phenomenon, where cultures have permeated across the globe.

That globalisation has been a two way street :-

① Economically
↳ while FDI and foreign goods have flooded our markets, it also has led to transfer of Indian labour, and raw material to world markets

② Socially
Migration has been happening both ways. Tourism too

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is two sided.

(3) Culturally

- While western culture trickles into our society, Indian culture such as yoga, Indian food is also prevalent in the west. Eg: A few years, butter chicken tikka was named the national dish of UK for one year.

(4) Politically

- While Trump's nomination affected the rest of the world, regional political instability like Syrian war and South China Sea despite too has global ramifications.

(5) Legal

- While most treaties

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forum westernised powers, regional groupings such as ASEAN and others such as BRICS are ensuring that policies of developing countries have an effect on the world scene.

Therefore, it is certainly a two way street with equal contribution and mixing of material culture; although western culture may seem to dominate

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INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
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14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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103, 1st Floor, B/1-2, Ansal Building, Behind UCO Bank, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi – 110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. The dual use nature of space technology enables its utilisation for civilian as well as military purposes. In this context, examine the need for a Space Security Policy in India.

अंतरिक्ष प्रौद्योगिकी के दोहरे उपयोग की प्रकृति नागरिक एवं साथ ही सैन्य प्रयोजनों के लिए इसके उपयोग को सक्षम बनाती है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में अंतरिक्ष सुरक्षा नीति की आवश्यकता का परीक्षण कीजिए।

The use of space as a medium to further human progress started with the launch of Russian satellite Sputnik at the height of cold war era. This led to various concerns:-

- Concerns over militirization of space
- Concerns over hosting weapons of mass destruction in space
- Colonization of Space

Yet, Space also enabled the development of technology.

↳ For this end, the Convention on Peaceful Use of Outer Space was signed along with the Moon Treaty. These allowed only the peaceful use of space.

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Presently, the space offers multiple uses:-

1. Satellites, which significantly help our core infrastructure to function

2. Scientific experiments -
↳ Eg: the Micius satellite experiment with quantum cryptography

But, concerns abound that with increasing defence sophistication, the space may be used for setting military bases, or as a medium to launch wide range missiles. Eg: North Korea Threat

Further, private companies too have started their ventures into space.
Eg: Indus of India designing its moon mission

Elon Musk's plans to make the moon habitable.

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In light of these technological advancements, it is imperative for India to have a Space Security Policy

1. Lack of any effective regulation can be catastrophic if space technology is used for evil ends

2. Presently, there is no responsibility on the space waste being generated

3. There is no specific liability in case a failed space mission causes loss to human life or property.

4. The coming era may require militarization of space, for which prior forethought is required.

A Space Security Policy, in line with international space law will boost our country's space ventures in the right direction.

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2. What are the issues associated with coastal security in India? In this context, discuss whether a Central Marine Police Force can help in addressing these issues.

भारत में तटीय सुरक्षा से संबद्ध मुद्दे क्या हैं? इस संदर्भ में, चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या एक केंद्रीय समुद्री पुलिस बल (सेंट्रल मरीन पुलिस फ़ोर्स) इन समस्याओं को हल करने में सहायता कर सकता है?

In India, coastal security is of three types:

1. Territorial waters (upto 12 nautical miles)
   ↳ with State Coastal Police, jurisdiction with State Police Stations

2. Exclusive Economic Zone (upto 200 nm)
   ↳ with Coast Guard.

3. High Seas
   ↳ with Indian Navy

Often, the policing in territorial waters is not upto the mark, as seen by the 26/11 infiltration through the sea.

Issues:

1. lack of coordination
2. lack of effective equipment with

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Coastal Police which is closest to water.

3. lack of effective & specific training

4. budgetary constraints leading to poor upgradation

5. The coastal space is extremely vital for our country as:

1. vast reservoir of oil, gas & minerals needs to be safeguarded

2. threats of piracy

3. protection of our fishermen who may stray into international waters

4. disaster management & warnings can be averted better

5. curbing drugs smuggling & weapon infiltration

6. refugees coming in through the sea route

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In light of this, the 13th Defence Security Plan recommended setting of a Coastal Marine Police Force.

- Such a centralised police force will be on the lines of BSF & NSG
- Specific niche training & area of command
- improved budgetary allocations for better equipment
- Central authority will ensure better coordination between the coastal states as well as Indian navy.

Such a force will go a long way in helping India secure her coastal frontiers from all possible threats, and is a welcome proposal.

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3. Cyber terrorism holds serious potential to paralyze economic and financial institutions in India. What are the issues and challenges w.r.t. India's cyber security? What initiatives has the GoI taken to address the same?

साइबर आतंकवाद भारत में आर्थिक एवं वित्तीय संस्थाओं को शक्तिहीन करने संबंधी गंभीर क्षमता रखता है। भारत की साइबर सुरक्षा से संबद्ध मुद्दे और चुनौतियाँ क्या हैं? इनका समाधान करने के लिए भारत सरकार ने कौन-सी पहलें की हैं?

With data being the new oil, warfare is no longer conventional. Cyber terrorism refers to the use of information technology to cause economic or political instability in a country.

1. With digital banking taking root in India, there is risk of user details being stolen.

2. Distributed Denial of Server (DDOS) attacks can paralyse stock markets and economy.

3. Threats like wannacry ransomware can exploit vulnerabilities to extort huge amounts of cash.

4. Aadhar data may be stolen for personification & forgery.

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Yet, there are multiple challenges to securing cyber security in India:

1. lack of uniformity in devices & software makes it difficult to set common standards

2. Most of our country is flooded with cheap chinese imports, leading to China having access to our data & vulnerabilities

3. Private companies are not willing to spend on cyber security protection.

4. The importance given to cyber security largely depends on an organisation's work culture.

Realising the importance of cyber security, the government has taken the following steps :-

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1. Identifying communications network as ~~core~~ critical information infrastructure under the IT Act, 2000.

2. Releasing the National Cyber Security Policy, 2013

3. Having local chip requirements under Telecom Policy, 2012.

4. Sectoral CERTs for quick response

5. Cyber Police Cells in States

6. Employing young professional ethical hackers to resolve any threats to the government

These steps, inter alia, are stepping stones towards achieving cyber security in India.

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4. Critically examine the feasibility of fencing the Indo-Myanmar border as a strategy to contain insurgency given the existing Free Movement Regime (FMR) between the two countries.

उग्रवाद को नियंत्रित करने की रणनीति के रूप में भारत-म्यांमार सीमा पर बाड़ लगाने संबंधी व्यवहार्यता का, दोनों देशों के बीच मौजूदा मुक्त आवागमन व्यवस्था (Free Movement Regime) के परिप्रेक्ष्य में आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

The Indo Myanmar border is home to close-knit tribal communities living on either side. Many Indian families have their lands in Myanmar and vice versa.

↳ To allow for movement, there exits a free movement regime between the two countries.

→ It allows free movement upto 16 kms on both sides of the border.

→ It boosts trade, people to people contact & supply of essential services.

However, the FMR became notorious as:-

1. Drug trafficking from Myanmar which lies on the goldentriangle edge.

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2. Trafficking of women & children

3. Supply of money & arms to insurgents.

↳ Most north eastern states have active insurgency movements

eg: NSCN in Nagaland; the movement in Assam.

→ There is nexus between the insurgents & money they obtain from drug trafficking.

→ With the FMR, they are easily able to acquire arms to strengthen their movement.

As a suggestion, fencing of the border was proposed:-

1. Having check points like in Bangladesh border
2. Floodlighting; Patrolling; Fencing
3. Movement only through dedicated

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points-

The feasibility :

- Indo Myanmar border terrain is extremely porous due to rivers & hills
  ↳ physically fencing may not be feasible.

- It will cut off communities from their ancestral lands

- It may intensify the insurgency due to anger against the move.

Any such step will have many ramifications. While desirable, locals must be involved in designating movement checkpoints to ensure their way of life is not affected much.

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5. What do you understand by 'lone wolf attacks'? In the wake of increasing lone wolf attacks across the globe, assess India's vulnerability to such attacks. Also, suggest measures that can prevent such attacks.

'लोन वुल्फ हमलों' से आप क्या समझते हैं? विश्व भर में बढ़ते लोन वुल्फ हमलों को देखते हुए इस प्रकार के हमलों के प्रति भारत की सुभेद्यता का आकलन कीजिए। साथ ही, इस प्रकार के हमलों के रोकथाम हेतु उपाय सुझाइए।

Lone wolf attacks refer to terrorist acts in which the perpetrator is not trained personally. Instead, he or she is guided by a shared ideology which makes him attack without any funding on part of any organisation.

↳ As individual effort is required, it has the potential to happen very frequently w/o any planning by an organisation.

→ It is very difficult to prevent as the individual merges in with the crowd.

Eg: The Paris mowing down attack

→ Ideology cannot be prevented

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from reaching the individual as the internet is too vast; and also due to freedom of speech.

India is quite vulnerable:

1. a vast population that can be indoctrinated easily.

2. already active Khalistan & ISIS movements can learn from such attacks and try the same

3. inadequate public safety infrastructure in the form of CCTVs, etc.

4. unemployed youth may carry out such attacks as they get direction by following ideology

Measures can be taken to prevent the attacks:—

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1. Public awareness campaigns so that any hint of inclination to carry such an attack can be reported at the earliest.

2. Improving infrastructure. Filling up of police vacancies & manning all important checkpoints.

3. Stringent controls on arms licensing

4. CCTV cameras at all junctions

5. Better access of mental health facilities to successfully bring those who are indoctrinated back to their regular lives.

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6. What are the factors that lead to generation of black money in India? Discuss the role played by India both domestically and internationally to neutralise the menace of money laundering and black money.

भारत में काले धन के सृजन की परिस्थितियों को उत्पन्न करने वाले कारक क्या हैं? घरेलू और अंतरराष्ट्रीय दोनों स्तरों पर मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग तथा काले धन के खतरे को निष्प्रभावी करने में भारत की भूमिका की चर्चा कीजिए।

Black money refers to any money that is not accounted for. Factors responsible :-

1. not wanting to pay taxes → tax evasion.

2. India's lenient tax treaties with tax havens like Cyprus, Mauritius, Cayman Islands

3. To use money for illegal means such as terrorism, insurgency.

4. Presence of portfolio investors & using the route of participatory notes to avoid registration in India.

Being a developing country, India loses out on a lot of money which if taxed would have increased

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our revenues. Role played by India in this field is immense :-

Internationally :-

- India is a member of the Financial Action Task Force, and the Enforcement Directorate regularly reports to the FATF.

- Signing a number of tax treaties to check tax evasion

- Introducing GAAR (General Anti Avoidance Rules) to curb tax avoidance as well.

- Full cooperation with authorities in the ~~Mono~~ recent Fonsecca leaks case

- Pressurising Switzerland to release details of Indians holding money in its banks.

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Nationally:

- SEBI has tightened norms for participatory notes.
- Enacting the Prevention of Money laundering Act & making punishments stringent
- Use of big data by Income Tax officials to find tax evaders
- Pradhan Mantri Gareeb Kalyan Yojana & Income Disclosure Scheme
- Using social media to track discrepancies between income declared & lifestyle of the assessee.

These steps have made India one of the leading voices against the menace of black money.

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7. The national security of the country cannot be strengthened until we focus on intelligence sharing and ensure greater coordination among agencies. Elaborate. Also, highlight the steps being taken by the government to strengthen its intelligence network.

जब तक हम विभिन्न एजेंसियों के मध्य आसूचना साझाकरण (इंटेलिजेंस शेयरिंग) एवं बेहतर समन्वय पर ध्यान केंद्रित नहीं करेंगे, देश की राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा को सुदृढ़ नहीं किया जा सकता। विस्तारपूर्वक बताइए। साथ ही, सरकार द्वारा अपने आसूचना नेटवर्क को मजबूत बनाने के लिए उठाए गए कदमों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

The national security of a country, vital for its survival, is handled by various agencies. Example, in India we have:

1. CBI
2. Serious Fraud Investigation Office for white collar crimes
3. Intelligence Bureau for internal intelligence
4. Research & Analysis Wing for external intelligence
5. National Security Guard for nuclear security.

In light of multiple agencies working on intelligence, it is of utmost importance that the

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information collected by one agency is shared with the other.

↳ • If not done, operating in silos can lead to major security lapses

• For coordination, it is necessary to strictly define the areas of operation of different agencies so that no overlap takes place.

• By having comprehensive inputs from different sources, a holistic picture can emerge.

Steps being taken by the government:

1. Proposal for a National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID)

2. Crime & Criminal Tracking Network

3. Stressing on inter-agency coordination

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& reporting.

Way ahead:

- Similar to the proposal of Chief of Defence Staff, a high rank post can be created to act as a coordinator for all agencies

- This coordinator can act as a single point of access for the Prime Minister or Home Minister.

- Having monthly meetings of all agencies to improve work culture

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8. In what ways is the approach of "Act East" Policy different from "Look East" Policy? Suggest certain priority areas on which India should focus upon to fulfill its ambitious geostrategic and economic goals in the region.

"लुक-ईस्ट" नीति की तुलना में "एक्ट ईस्ट" नीति का दृष्टिकोण किस प्रकार भिन्न है? इस क्षेत्र में अपने महत्वाकांक्षी भू-रणनीतिक और आर्थिक लक्ष्यों को पूरा करने के लिए कुछ ऐसे प्राथमिकता क्षेत्रकों का सुझाव दीजिए जिन पर भारत को अपना ध्यान केन्द्रित करना चाहिए।

→ In the look East policy, the emphasis was on having international policy that gave importance to the region East of India by keeping it in mind while framing policies.

↳ It led to formation of BIMSTEC, cooperation with ASEAN.

→ In contrast, the Act East policy involves active commitment in terms of partnership & strengthening ties. As opposed to looking at the east, we are now acting hand in hand with the east.

↳ Eg: . The clubbing of BIMSTEC summit with BRICS last year

· Moving towards RCEP with ASEAN nations.

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Priority areas in the Act East Policy:-

1. Containing the rise of China
- China is fast emerging as a superpower in not only the South China Sea, but also till Europe with its ambitious one Belt One Road project.

- India by looking & acting east, seeks to neutralise the effect of China by partnering with ASEAN countries.

2. Important role of BIMSTEC & Myanmar
- BIMSTEC is finally being given its due as it is an issue free relationship as opposed to SAARC

- The strategic location of Myanmar & BIMSTEC in connecting South & South East Asia require important

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to be given here.

3. Oil & Gas exploration in Indian Ocean

4. Safeguarding its fishing waters

5. Partnership with Japan on defence, investment and other areas

6. Pushing forth on RCEP

7. Being an active participant in peaceful resolution of North Korea conflict.

8. Banking on its soft power to increase people to people ties.

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9. In recent years there has been an increasing convergence between Russia and China on several global issues. What are its implications for India? What steps should be taken by India to protect its national interests?

हाल के वर्षों में रूस और चीन के बीच कई वैश्विक मुद्दों पर समाभिरूपता (कन्वर्जेंस) में निरंतर बढ़ोत्तरी देखी गयी है। भारत के लिए इसके क्या निहितार्थ हैं? भारत द्वारा अपने राष्ट्रीय हितों की रक्षा करने के लिए कौन-से कदम उठाए जाने चाहिए?

Historically, Russia & China were united with the shared communist ideology. Presently, they share the following interests :-

1. Fanning Pakistan to control Afghanistan.
2. Both ~~have~~ conduct military exercises ~~conducted~~ with Pakistan.
3. Russia's keen interest in One Belt One Road Project
4. BRICS convergence
5. Both seek to dismantle the superpower status of USA.

Russia's convergence with China is worrying for India as :-

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1. Russia has traditionally supported India, and India's relationship with Pakistan is hostile.

2. China's policy of encircling India will become dangerous if Russia too supports China in case of any future attack.

3. Russia may prefer China over India in future defence partnerships

4. Both Russia & China have vast amounts of natural resources which are useful for India.

5. Russia has a history of intervening
↳ Eg: Afghanistan, Crimea
and Russia's intervention in favour of China in case of a future ~~Russ~~ Doklam type conflict will not be good for the subcontinent.

Therefore, to protect its interests,

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India must take the following steps:

1. Continued dialogue with both Russia & China for good relations

2. Increasing its outreach in South East Asia & West Asia so as to have support in case of any conflict.

3. Not rely on any one country as allegiances change quickly in a multipolar world.

4. Strengthen border defence & intelligence gathering facilities.

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10. After remaining peripheral to India's foreign policy priorities, the Indian Ocean has recieved some attention in recent years. Nonetheless, given the significance it holds, involvement of actors with diverse interests and existing challenges, it is imperative that India redoubles its efforts in shaping the future of the region. Discuss.

दीर्घकाल तक भारत की विदेश नीति की प्राथमिकताओं में हाशिये पर रहने के उपरांत, हिंद महासागर ने हाल के वर्षों में कुछ ध्यान आकर्षित किया है। इसके अंतर्निहित महत्व, विभिन्न हितों वाले देशों के शामिल होने और मौजूदा चुनौतियों को दृष्टिगत रखते हुए, यह आवश्यक है कि भारत इस क्षेत्र के भविष्य को आकार प्रदान करने में अपने प्रयासों को और अधिक बढ़ाए। चर्चा कीजिए।

India is soon realising the value of geostrategic Indian Ocean. It holds multiple significance:-

1. Economic
- Polymetallic nodules in the seabed
- Fishing waters
- Hydrocarbon exploration

2. Geostrategic
- With China's encirclement of India through its string of pearls, there are active concerns that India should focus on its maritime defence

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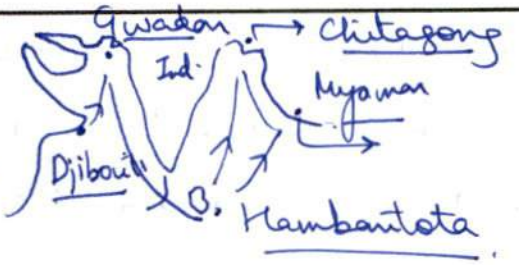
Encirclement of India



- The island nations of Indian Ocean (Maldives, Mauritius, Madagascar) have historically relied on Indian help in fulfilling their ambitions & safeguarding territories. It is important for India to ensure its influence remains intact.

- Vast number of Indian diaspora in East Africa that need to be safeguarded.

- Threats of Chinese military bases around India; and troubling ties between Bangladesh's reliance of China.

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In light of these challenges, it is imperative for India to double its efforts in the Indian Ocean region by

- Strengthening navy presence
- Increased coordination among Indian Ocean Arc IOR-ARC states
- Focussing on Asia Africa Development Corridor to ensure India remains in Africa's favour.

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11. What are the objectives and key achievements of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)? Also, highlighting India's association with the Commission, identify its influence on various domestic legal regimes.

अंतरराष्ट्रीय व्यापार कानून पर संयुक्त राष्ट्र आयोग (यूनाइटेड नेशन कमीशन ऑन इंटरनेशनल ट्रेड लॉ: UNCITRAL) के उद्देश्य और प्रमुख उपलब्धियां क्या हैं? साथ ही, इस आयोग के साथ भारत की संबद्धता पर प्रकाश डालते हुए विभिन्न घरेलू विधिक व्यवस्थाओं पर इसके प्रभाव की पहचान कीजिए।

The UNCITRAL is a UN special body whose primary goal is to standardise & give model laws on the shape international trade law must take.

The most significant contribution of UNCITRAL has been in the field of arbitration. UNCITRAL's model law on arbitration was the framework behind our 1996 Arbitration Act.

UNCITRAL works with the WTO to offer the world some coherence in the field of international trade law.

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India's association :

1. India has been regularly sending members to the commission

2. India acts as a voice for developing countries in the Commission and ensures the policies are not biased in favour of developed countries.

3. India's arbitration acts are based on UNCITRAL model laws.

4. India uses the dispute resolution mechanism provided by it to resolve its trade disputes with investors.

5. UNCITRAL acts as a pressure point to force countries to have its trade law in consonance with UNCITRAL standards.

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UNCITRAL is assuming a more important role day by day as international trade grows. The recent model BIT of India which has earned the ire of countries is being discussed in UNCITRAL.

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12. What are the issues and challenges faced by Indian migrants in the Gulf countries? Enumerate the steps taken by the Indian government to address these.

खाड़ी देशों में भारतीय प्रवासियों द्वारा सामना किए जाने वाले मुद्दे एवं चुनौतियाँ क्या हैं? इनसे निपटने के लिए भारत सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

The Gulf Countries are home to
- Skilled Indian migrants working in high paying jobs
- Unskilled Indians working on construction sites.

Both provide major remittances to India. Therefore it is vital that they remain safe.

Challenges faced :-

1. The Kafala System
- Unskilled workers have all their documents taken as security by their employer.
- Causes multiple hardships & makes them rights-less.

2. Volatile Political Environment
- The Syrian war, Qatar crisis

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all lead to a state of instability making all workers vulnerable.

3. Stringent criminal law based on Sharia
- ensures high punishments for even small crimes

4. Poor wages, working conditions

5. Racial attacks and lesser freedoms

Steps taken by the Government:

1. Forging strong ties with the Gulf to ensure stability in relationship.

2. Requesting the governments to follow Qatar's lead & abolish the kafala system.

3. Twiplomacy → To effectively &

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quickly resolve complaints of trapped Indians

4. Having proactive embassy & consulate officials.

5. Organising rescue missions for trapped Indians.

In addition, private Indian individuals too are chipping in by

↳ Arranging heavy bails for those accused of petty crimes

→ Providing decent food & lodging

→ Moral support & community presence

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13. The recent breakthrough in the Civil Nuclear field is a sign of India-Japan relations moving beyond the calculations of complementarities and cooperation. Analyse in view of the multiple factors shaping India-Japan relations.

नागरिक परमाणु क्षेत्र में हाल ही में प्राप्त सफलता भारत-जापान संबंधों का अन्योन्याश्रितताओं (अनुपूरक) और सहयोग से परे जाने का चिह्न है। भारत-जापान संबंधों को आकार प्रदान करने वाले विविध कारकों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India and Japan share historical relations. Buddhism spread to Japan from India. Yet, in concrete terms the relations never took off comprehensively. Trade remained a major component:-

1. Maruti- Suzuki partnership
2. India as a market for Japanese goods in field of technology

In this light, the India-Japan Nuclear Deal is a major breakthrough -

1. India's waiver granted by NSG coupled with India's record in this field made Japan ready to enter into the deal.

2. India relied on Japan due to its trustworthiness.

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3. Any concerns of Japan transferring technology that failed in the Fukushima disaster no longer remain after Fukushima started functioning again.

This deal will boost India's goal of clean energy; and its reputation of being a responsible player in this field.

Other factors in India-Japan relations :-

1. High Speed Rail from Mumbai to Ahmedabad being supplied by Japan with a soft loan.

2. Japanese investments in Indian industry.

3. Cooperation between ISRO & JAXA; the space organisations of the two countries.

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4. Ocean studies collaboration between Ministry of Earth Sciences & Japanese ministry.

5. Tsunami & Earthquake proof technology cooperation

6. People to people cooperation, with many Indians studying or working in Japan.

7. India - Japan partnership in Asia - Africa region ~~growth~~ growth corridor to counter rising influence of China.

Therefore, India - Japan relationship ~~has a long way to go~~ can go a long way in providing a stable relationship between the two countries.

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14. The Commonwealth grouping has been accused of talking about ideals that it does not uphold and wasting the resources of governments. Critically analyse the statement and comment on the relevance of the Commonwealth grouping in present times.

राष्ट्रमंडल समूह पर उन आदर्शों के संबंध में चर्चा करने जिनका स्वयं इसके द्वारा अनुसमर्थन नहीं किया जाता एवं सरकारों के संसाधनों का अपव्यय करने के आरोप लगते रहे हैं। इस कथन का *आलोचनात्मक* विश्लेषण कीजिए एवं वर्तमान समय में राष्ट्रमंडल समूह की प्रासंगिकता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The genesis of the commonwealth grouping lies in the independence of former British colonies. The features of this organisation are:-

1. no political commitments towards each other
2. membership based on shared history & culture
3. Queen Elizabeth is the formal head.

Of late, the commonwealth is being criticised for having no effective purpose →

- members meet & it wastes resources without any effect

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in economic & political conditions of its members.

- no role in sanctioning / protesting against the human rights violations by its members.

- no significance as most nations are unable to identify with each other now.

Yet, the Commonwealth cannot be dismissed :-

1. any strain on economic resources is minimal as membership does not require any fee to be paid

2. a voice to act against colonization.

3. Big members like India, Canada, Australia can provide direction

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4. People to people cooperation as many members of different nations went to other colonies as indentured labourers.

Therefore, attempts must be made to revive & reform the commonwealth instead of doing away with it.

↳ The overarching British presence can be mutually toned down

→ Instead of the past, concrete action in the present and a vision for the future is needed.

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15. ISRO has successfully flight tested the Reusable Launch Vehicle-Technology Demonstrator (RLV-TD). Discuss the significance of RLV and bring out the differences between RLVs and conventional Launch Vehicles (LVs). What are the challenges in successful execution of RLVs?

इसरो (ISRO) ने पुन: प्रयोज्य प्रक्षेपण वाहन-तकनीक प्रदर्शक (रियूजेबल लॉन्च व्हीकल-टेक्नोलॉजी डेमोंस्ट्रेटर: RLV-TD) की उड़ान का सफलतापूर्वक परीक्षण किया। RLV के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए तथा RLVs एवं पारंपरिक प्रक्षेपण वाहनों (लॉन्च व्हीकल: LVs) के बीच अंतर स्पष्ट कीजिए। RLVs के सफल कार्य-निष्पादन में क्या चुनौतियां हैं?

The RLV-TD is a significant step taken by ISRO to bring its capabilities at par with other nations.

A conventional LV launches a satellite, but is not recovered post flight. It gets oxidised in the process & cannot be recovered again. This leads to excess costs every time.

A RLV, on the other hand, can be reused again for multiple launches. By using RLV, ISRO will save many costs & time on its part. It will also give an

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edge over other countries in terms of launch capability.

Challenges in succesful execution of RLV:-

1. Cost benefits remain to be seen

→ The cost of development is more than a regular launch vehicle

→ The cost of maintaining the launch vehicle will add on to the expenses

2. Old technology

→ The RLV technology is decades old, but only NASA has used it in the past

→ Challenge is to make the recovery of the vehicle easier

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by improving existing technology.

3. Fear of failure / glitch

> If the RLV fails / bursts, it is will lead to huge losses.

→ Yet, the benefits in terms of increased frequency of flights surely outweighs the costs if research is done properly to create a lasting technology.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. Women constitute just 14% of science researchers in India, though they are no longer a minority within higher education when it comes to STEM. Analyse the reasons for this state of affairs and discuss how it can be addressed.

यद्यपि भारत में विज्ञान शोधकर्ताओं की कुल संख्या में महिलाएं केवल 14% ही हैं, किन्तु STEM के संदर्भ में उच्च शिक्षा के अंतर्गत वे अब अल्पसंख्यक नहीं हैं। इस स्थिति के कारणों का विश्लेषण कीजिए और चर्चा कीजिए कि इसका समाधान किस प्रकार किया जा सकता है?

Women are increasingly choosing STEM (science, technology, engineering & mathematics) streams in graduation

- Earlier, mostly males studied this subject
- Women like Shakuntala Devi have broken all stereotypes associated with women being incapable of STEM.

However, the education in STEM is not translating into employment in STEM. That is, many women with a degree in science are not actually employed in the field of research.

The reasons could be :-

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1. Poor focus on research as it is not highly remunerative

2. Preferring higher paying jobs that do not significantly involve research.

3. Societal pressure to get married upon completion of education as STEM subjects ~~take~~ have a long curriculum duration.

4. Presence of discrimination in hiring women & presence of glass cieling.

5. Employers not ready to undertake responsibility of paid maternal leave under the recent Amendment Act.

Steps that can be taken to address:-

1. Encouraging models of work & research from home
   ↳ Improving internet access

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→ creating an e-library of titles in books, journals for easy access

2. Incentivising parents & girls themselves to pursue a career in research by quoting the example of ISRO's women scientists

3. Providing women reasonable accomodation within research campuses to help them manage family life as well.

4. Employers to take more women

These steps may help change the state of affairs & convert the educated women into a skilled workforce.

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17. What do you understand by Internet Governance? Has the recent development of ICANN becoming free from the US government solved the issues of Internet Governance? What should be the way forward?

इंटरनेट गवर्नेंस से आप क्या समझते हैं? क्या संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका की सरकार से ICANN के मुक्त होने की हाल ही की घटना ने इंटरनेट गवर्नेंस के मुद्दों का समाधान किया है। आगे की राह क्या होनी चाहिए?

Internet Governance refers to principles that determine how the internet should be governed.

- The internet is recognised as a critical informational infrastructure.
- The well-being of the internet is extremely vital for our water supply, gas supply, air travel, trading & many other critical activities.
- Questions that internet governance seeks to answer:-
  1. Who owns the internet
  2. Who has the responsibility for controlling the internet
  3. How should the internet be protected.

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ICANN emerged as the global center for internet governance.

↳ Many attacked it as it was controlled heavily by US government

→ Was argued that internet governance with ICANN is not truly free.

The recent protests lead to US government withdrawing itself from ICANN. This has renewed efforts in the field of internet governance

Way forward:-

1. The internet is global commons (res communis). Any decision on internet governance must be taken by all stakeholders on the principle of consensus.

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2. The north - south divide in proliferation of internet cannot be overlooked. Some leeway must be given to developing countries.

3. The internet must remain
   - open
   - free
   - fair.

   Principles of net neutrality must be adhered to.

4. Data protection & privacy must be given due weightage.

5. A potent cyber security infrastructure must be in place.

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18. Increase in the cases of nosocomial infections has emerged as a major concern in India. What are nosocomial infections? What are its causes and why is it a major concern in India? Identify the measures required to combat these infections.

भारत में नोसोकोमियल संक्रमण (nosocomial infections) के मामलों में बढ़ोत्तरी एक प्रमुख चिन्ता के विषय के रूप में उभरी है। नोसोकोमियल संक्रमण क्या हैं? इसके कारण क्या हैं और यह भारत में एक प्रमुख चिन्ता का विषय क्यों है? इन संक्रमणों की रोकथाम करने हेतु उपायों की पहचान कीजिए।

Nosocomial infection refers to an infection that is acquired from a medical establishment viz hospitals & clinics.

Causes :-

1. Low immunity ; high potency

- The patients visiting hospitals have low immunity while the strain of virus is highly potent due to increased resistance. This makes them deadly.

2. Poor hygiene in hospitals

3. Not separating contaminated tools

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4. Reusing equipment without sterilising it.

5. lack of awareness on such infection

Concerns:

1. A major concern is that these infections are highly resistant as they breed in a comparatively sterile environment and yet are able to become highly resistant.

2. While doctors usually acquire immunity to such infections in their environment, they are so potent that even doctors are threatened.

3. Increased burden on healthcare

4. Quick mutations in the virus making it even harder to suppress.

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Measures to combat infections:

- Enforce strict hygiene norms
- Segregate all contaminated waste & equipment
- Reduce contact between infected patients and visitors
- Wearing N95 masks in hospitals to stop respiratory route transmission
- Spread adequate awareness
- Research in this field and finding novel ways to curb the impact.

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19. There is a growing concern that robots, automation and AI will transform the labour markets and lead to massive job loss across the world. Comment. Also mention the steps that can be taken to mitigate the impact of increased automation and AI.

इस विषय में चिंता बढ़ती जा रही है कि रोबोट, ऑटोमेशन (स्वचालन) एवं AI, श्रम बाजार को रूपांतिरत कर देंगे और परिणामस्वरूप विश्व भर में बड़े पैमाने पर रोजगारों की हानि होगी। टिप्पणी कीजिए। बढ़ते ऑटोमेशन (स्वचालन) एवं AI के प्रभाव को कम करने हेतु उठाए जा सकने वाले कदमों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

When the Industrial Revolution occurred in the 18th century, there were similar concerns that traditional workers will go out of work. Instead,

- no. of jobs increased
- the skill set required of a worker changed.

Similarly, the coming in of the 4th industrial revolutions with robots & AI has led to similar concerns.

- AI has enabled robots to not only think like humans (machine learning) but also make decisions (deep learning)

- The boundaries between human

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and artificial are getting blurred.

- There is a significant fear of most manual as well as skilled jobs being done by robots.

Eg: Robots are already in use in major banking firms.

Yet, the fears may be misplaced

1. The rising automation will lead to skilled jobs.

2. Boost to the care economy
- More effort on human care & pursuit as machines will be doing the other work for us.

3. Focus on other pursuits rather than money.

To counter the disruptive effects of AI, the following steps can be taken:-

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1. Providing for a Universal Basic Income.
   ↳ It can be funded from the money saved by employing AI.

2. Skilling workers in tasks such as counselling, old age care of a growing old population, medicine, judiciary, bureaucracy, fine arts.
   ↳ Such sectors will not be fully automated in the near future.
   ↳ Shifting education to cater to these sectors will be a good step

3. Enhancing cyber security architecture and protecting privacy.

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20. The importance of IPRs as a marketable financial asset and economic tool needs to be recognised. Elaborate. In this context, analyse how the National Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy intends to lay the future roadmap for intellectual property in India.

बिक्री-योग्य (विपणनयोग्य) वित्तीय परिसंपत्ति एवं आर्थिक उपकरण के तौर पर IPRs के महत्व को मान्यता प्रदान किए जाने की आवश्कता है। विस्तारपूर्वक बताईए। इस संदर्भ में, विश्लेषण कीजिए कि राष्ट्रीय बौद्धिक सम्पदा अधिकार (IPR) नीति भारत में बौद्धिक सम्पदा का भावी रोडमैप किस प्रकार निर्धारित करना चाहती है?

IPR, or intellectual property rights are rights over ownership of
→ Copyright / Trademark / Patent / Plant Variety.

→ IPRs are of immense financial value. They help a company distinguish itself from its competitors; and allows it to exclude competitors.
Eg: 1. Patanjali Ltd. cannot use the trademark of Dabur
2. Patented drugs can usually only be manufactured by the patent holder.

→ IPRs are seen as a reward for contributing in innovation. By providing

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property rights, the owner of IPR is allowed to bank upon the intellectual property thus created. It ensures competitors do not piggy-back upon the success of an established player.

Yet, in light of social welfare, IPRs have exceptions.

↳ 1. Fair use of copyright & trademark. Eg: for education

2. Compulsory licensing of patents

India's National IPR Policy 2016 seeks to balance the property rights with the exceptions.

1. Boost on innovation.
2. Ease of IPR filing
3. Designating CIPAM under Ministry of Commerce as nodal authority
4. Online processes.

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5. cutting down inspection period to have quicker IPR grants

6. Boosting start ups

7. Building an IPR inventory that will tell if an IPR is already registered.

8. Respecting & recognising global IPRs.

9. Allowing fair use & compulsory licensing.

The new IPR policy is in line with the goal of Make in India & Ease of Doing Business.